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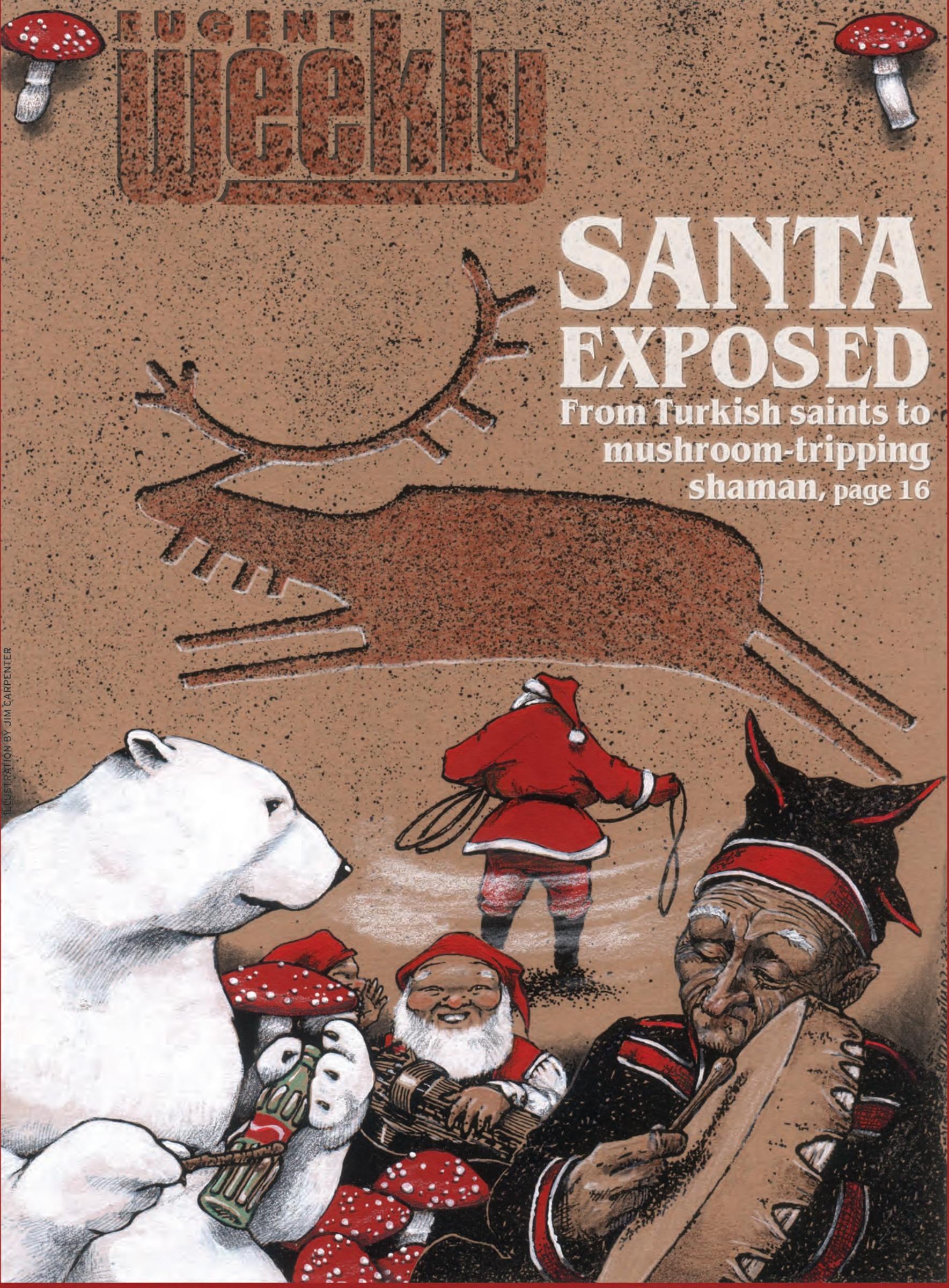


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SANTA EXPOSED

From Turkish saints to mushroom-tripping shaman, page 16

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ORCHESTRATED MISERY

If you don't read another book in the next five years, this is the one to read:

We don't have to be vague anymore about suspecting that a planned misery is sweeping the globe. In Naomi Klein's brilliant masterpiece *The Shock Doctrine*, she supplies us with an uncommon clarity about the evolution and scope of the corporate oligarchy that has overtaken American economics and intends to reorder the whole world. Haven't you had the feeling all along that this is an organized plan? It is, and how!

There are two bibles used in this world economics coup, Klein points out, and neither of them have anything to do with Jesus. The first is the fundamentalist bible of the so-called neo-liberal economics of Milton Friedman. In the 1950s, Milton was a famed "free market" professor of economics at the University of Chicago. His status as a Nobel laureate of theoretical economics enabled him to mentor four decades of devotees (from the CIA, Kissinger, Pinochet, right-wing think tanks; Reagonomics is Miltonomics and so is the Republican Revolution), on up to and foremost – the current White House MBA team.

Since Milton was a theorist, Chile, Argentina, Uruguay, Brazil, Indonesia and now the U.S. and beyond have all been seemingly donated as laboratories for Milton's free market experiment, to see if his theories work. They work all right. They transfer huge wealth from public to private hands, over and over again.

The most effective tools used to make this happen, country by country, have been fear, torture and terror. It is a planned worldwide economic venture that first renders the society unstable and dangerous. When the vast population is sufficiently numbed with fear and the society has quickly undergone the three-fold transformation of privatization, deregulation and severe cuts to social spending, then the huge wealth grabs can ensue! Sound familiar?

The second bible in the economic reordering of the world is the Kubark manual. That's the step-by-step torture manual written by CIA authors that follows the "regression techniques" discovered by the CIA-sponsored experiments based in Canada with psychiatrist Dr. Ewen Cameron, another '50s theorist prize winner. In his experiments with unsuspecting human participants, Cameron used excessive electric shock, extreme drugging, sense deprivation, isolation and recorded messages played endlessly into the ears of the subject. This "therapy" went on for a month or more until the subject lost all sense of self. Cameron's assumption was that only when all of the subject's previous patterning had been destroyed was it then possible to remake their minds "with a clean slate to write upon."

All of Cameron's patients suffered great harm. The CIA insists this effective torture is not sadism, but science, and put it into their Kubark manual that is still used today as the how-to guide to render a human being into severe regression. It is the torture manual used in Iraq and in Guantánamo and other unknown places. This is the doctrine of shock, to render one person or a movement or a whole population senseless and completely vulnerable by overwhelming them with "shock and awe." It works the same on a nation as it does on one individual. Sound familiar?

The two bibles work hand in hand. But, "I don't think I was ever regarded as evil," writes Friedman, in *The Wall Street Journal*, July 22, 2006. Could that be because the truth was covered-up? Until now, that is ...

Deb Huntley
Eugene

THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

THE TROUBLE WITH HILLARY

NEITHER SCENARIO JUSTIFIES HER VOTE FOR THE RECENT KYL-LIEBERMAN AMENDMENT.

SENATOR CLINTON! THE BUSH ADMINISTRATION IS LAYING THE GROUNDWORK FOR ANOTHER ILL-CONEIVED, UNPOPULAR WAR!

WELL COUNT ME IN!

HA, HA! SHE'S JUST LIKE JOHN KERRY, WITH DIFFERENT REPRODUCTIVE ORGANS!

YES—PREFERABLY ONE WITH HIGH NEGATIVES AND EXCESSIVE BAGGAGE!

IF HILLARY CLINTON VOTED FOR THE WAR BECAUSE SHE GENUINELY BELIEVED WHAT GEORGE BUSH TOLD HER, SHE IS VERY GULLIBLE.

LOOK—OVER THERE! IT'S A GIANT FLYING MONKEY WITH A HUGE BAG OF CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS!

WHAT—? OH! I ALWAYS FALL FOR THAT ONE!

BASICALLY, SHE SEEMS LIKE THE CANDIDATE MOST LIKELY TO TURN THE '08 CAMPAIGN SEASON INTO AN EXTENDED REPLAY OF '04...

SHE VOTED FOR THE WAR BEFORE SHE WAS AGAINST IT, BUT THEN SHE CONTINUED TO SUPPORT IT, EXCEPT WHEN SHE DIDN'T!

...AND YOU HAVE TO WONDER WHY DEMOCRATS WOULD WANT TO GO DOWN THAT ROAD AGAIN...

WE NEED TO CHOOSE A NOMINEE WHO FILLS VOTERS WITH A SENSE OF PROFOUND AMBIVALENCE!

WHITE HOUSE, HERE WE COME!

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

DOWNTOWN RESOLUTION

For the New Year here in our lovely community of Eugene, I wish for continued passion for our downtown area. I would like to sincerely thank *all* who worked passionately in the recent election for their view of a better downtown. I am asking all who worked for and against the urban renewal ballot measure to *please* not give up seeking new possibilities!

I do in my heart believe that all who worked so hard in both directions all dream of a wonderful downtown. We all dream of a town center with something for everyone and a great place to gather together for celebrations.

I am asking all to step back, take a deep breath and try to look at everything in a fresh New Year's light. To all the business owners who are taking a chance downtown now, I say thank you as well as thanks and kudos to all those who frequent and support these busi-

nesses. To everyone else, I would ask you to go downtown and check it out; there is much good actively working down there now. Try a First Friday ARTWalk or go for dinner and a walkabout. For, in the end, anything at all could be built downtown, and it still would only work if we, the people, come!

We Eugeneans who make our way downtown on our bicycles, by foot, by bus and by auto will create a lively, vibrant, fun downtown!

So, once again, I ask for continued passion mixed with compassion and optimism in the New Year.

Tim Boyden
Eugene

WHERE WILL I PARK?

The board of directors of the South University Neighborhood Association (SUNA) is still getting used to the fact that seven stories of student housing will be built

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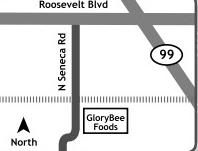
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

in our neighborhood — and we can't do a thing about it.

The developer seems to be creating a high quality building, for which we are grateful. But it will tower over the homes and two- and three-level apartments around it. The building is not compatible with our neighborhood. It's a dormitory that the UO should have built on campus.

Parking is as big of a problem as the size of the building. Planning rules require only 40 parking places for the 212 tenants. Most of the students who can afford the rent will have cars, but they'll have to park them on our neighborhood's streets. We'll become a parking lot. Ironically, the builder is nearly as concerned as we are; the lack of parking may keep some potential renters away.

The developer, builder and neighbors cannot take corrective steps because the code is rigid. However, you may be sure our board, as well as many individuals, will be participating in the infill siting process and urging the City Council and Planning Commission to change their misguided policies.

With a large apartment building literally looming over us, our Jan. 8 general meeting will focus on planning and infill. We will meet at 7 pm at Edison School.

Bob Peters
SUNA President
Eugene

TIME TO UNLEARN RACISM

I see in your article "Painful Humor" (12/6) that *EW* saw Arellano's column "as a way of combating racism and stereotyping." I applaud your intention, and I share that value. However, I think your approach is not serving its intended purpose.

Your article mentions about half a dozen leaders in the local Latino community, many of whom are dedicating their lives to the well-being of Latinos in Oregon. When they say the column is causing harm, reinforcing racist stereotypes and should be discontinued, guess what? They know what they are talking about.

Thinking that you know better than local Latinos about what is good for them is an example of racism right there. Is the column reinforcing bigotry? Should it be discontinued? You don't need to "Ask a Mexican!" from

Orange County, nor the white owners, board or staff of *EW*. You've already heard from the experts: local Latino/a leaders and community.

Please show respect and cancel the column. In addition, I request that you sponsor some "unlearning racism" events for your board and staff as well as for the rest of us who sometimes do more harm than good despite our positive intentions.

Sharon Guinee
Eugene

SUBDUE THE MASSES

I moved from Orange County, Calif., to Eugene in September 2006. To my very pleasant surprise, I discovered that Eugene had its version of my favorite weekly independent newspaper, the *OC Weekly*. The *Weekly*, wherever you are blessed to receive the paper, is one of the few remaining sources of truly free speech in this nation. The majority of print, radio and television broadcasting are controlled by a select few corporations that tend to keep dissent and opinions that may offend their sponsorship in the shadows.

Call me a conspiracy theorist, but I feel the mainstream media is a very significant reason why there is not outright revolution in this country caused by the blatant human rights and constitutional violations by our current presidential administration. Revolution has resulted from far less in other countries, but those countries didn't have billions of media dollars fighting to subdue the masses with cover-up, redirection and outright misinformation as is the case in this country. Free media is a right and a privilege that we should fight for and embrace with gusto.

It is for this reason that I address all of the readers who would like to remove "Ask a Mexican!" this week, "Savage Love" last week and whatever other column to come next week. These are outstanding columns that both entertain and inform, although sometimes employing language with which we are uncomfortable. Gustavo Arellano brings stereotypes out in the open and discusses why those stereotypes exist through humor aimed at Latinos and Caucasians alike.

"Ask a Mexican!" is not mean-spirited by any means, so please allow yourself to feel uncomfortable with this column long enough to

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Governing Language

'Fighting words' are protected by the Oregon Bill of Rights By David Fidanque

The ACLU doesn't represent William Charles Johnson in his criminal case, and we find his words racist, bigoted and utterly detestable. Such verbal abuse causes deep and longstanding pain. It occurs far too often – in our schools, on our public streets, in our offices and homes – both casually and caustically, and its pain endures.



But words are not physical violence. Yes, words can hurt; but outrageous and even dangerous words can also create change and even have been known to start revolutions. If we allow words alone to be punished as criminal, our right to think and speak freely will be diminished. Oregon's Constitution doesn't allow it, and ACLU's mission is to uphold the Constitution.

Article 1, Section 8, of the Oregon Constitution guarantees greater free speech protection than does the federal Constitution. It provides:

No law shall be passed restraining the free expression of opinion, or restricting the right to speak, write, or print freely on any subject whatever; but every person shall be responsible for the abuse of this right.

This provision is crystal clear, and Oregon courts have said that without a credible threat of physical violence, verbal harassment – no matter how heinous or bigoted the words – cannot be made criminal in this state.

The very nature of protecting free speech is that the ACLU is often called upon to do so in extreme situations. Speech that a majority of the public would support is rarely the focus of government punishment or censorship; it is almost always disfavored expression that is targeted by the government – in this case, egregiously bigoted language.

Keep in mind that criminal laws targeting speech have been used for centuries to isolate and punish disfavored minorities – including those who have organized to resist racist and homophobic laws and government policies. To give up our free speech protections based on the words used by Johnson – however foul – is shortsighted.

Without a credible threat of physical violence, verbal harassment – no matter how heinous or bigoted the words – cannot be made criminal

The ACLU has worked for decades in Oregon to end discrimination based on race, color, national origin, religion and sexual orientation.

We were instrumental in rewriting Oregon's hate-crime law in 1983, known as "Intimidation," to ensure its constitutionality. In 1989, we succeeded in expanding the law to protect people targeted because of their sexual orientation. In 1992, when that law was challenged, ACLU filed an amicus brief in support, and the Oregon Supreme Court upheld it.

The Johnson case involves a different law, the so-called "fighting words" provision of Oregon's Harassment statute. That law makes it a crime to "harass or annoy ... by publicly insulting" a person using "abusive words or gestures ... intended and likely to provoke a violent response."

The Oregon Court of Appeals threw out an earlier version of the law in 1984, and we urged the Legislature to repeal it in 1985. Instead, the Legislature chose to rewrite it, despite our warnings that the revisions were unconstitutional. State v. Johnson is the first appellate challenge in the 22 years since.

Had Johnson threatened physical violence, his actions could – and should – have been prosecuted as a hate crime under Oregon's Intimidation law.

It is not up to the criminal courts to govern language; it is up to us, as a society. We must, each of us, exercise our own power of free speech by speaking out against any and all bigotry, from the casual, so-called "joke" to the vile language used by Johnson.

The letters to the editor in the *Weekly* have been the forum for just such a challenge, and rightly so, regarding the intentionally provocative "iAsk A Mexican!" column. In these pages, in our homes and in our everyday interactions – that is where the struggle to address racist and homophobic speech belongs. Not in our criminal courts, unless there is actual physical violence or the threat of it.

David Fidanque is executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Oregon and has worked for the ACLU in Eugene since 1982.

Words as Violence

The intent to create harm is not protected

By Alan Brown

Consider this: Can words be violence?

Ask any woman/man who is the victim of spousal abuse that question, and you will undoubtedly get a strong affirmative. Abusers don't only use physical violence to attack their victims but also verbal violence and intimidation as well. It's all about power and control. If the words are not accompanied by physical violence or threats of physical violence, are they still abuse? Once again, what would the real experts/victims on the subject say?

When racist epithets are used to provoke a violent response, isn't this also a form of verbal violence? I'm sure that the communities of color have some very strong opinions about this form of harassment as they try to live their lives as members of our community.



When gays and lesbians are verbally harassed and intimidated in our community for simply existing, isn't that too a form of verbal violence? As a gay man I know my personal opinion on that subject. I want to live my life in peace without the threat of assault, intimidation and harassment I face simply trying to be myself. I will probably never know that as a reality in my life time.

Should verbal violence be protected as "free speech?" This is not a drill, folks. Arguments on this subject will be presented before the Oregon Supreme Court on Jan. 7. In August 2003, William Charles Johnson was convicted of a class B misdemeanor of harassment under ORS 166.065(1)(a)(B) for his verbal harassment of two women in the Portland area on August 11 during bumper-to-bumper stop and go traffic. The women had a rainbow sticker on their bumper from which he inferred their sexual orientation. He started by tailgating the women with his pickup truck, potentially putting their lives and the lives of others at risk. At the same time he made gestures directed at the women with his tongue. Using a bull horn to amplify himself, he called the African American woman driver of the car a "black bitch," "pussy-licking nigger," "lesbian dyke," and other names. This went on for several minutes, attracting the attention of other drivers and passersby. Johnson was clearly trying to provoke the driver.

Under the Oregon Harassment Statute ORS 166.065(1)(a)(B), a person is guilty of harassment when he or she "harasses or annoys another person by ... publicly insulting such other person by abusive words or gestures in a manner intended and likely to provoke a violent response." Johnson's attorney argued in court that he was merely exercising his free speech. The court did not agree, and he was convicted.

Johnson's attorney appealed the case to the Oregon Court of Appeals. In May of 2007 the Oregon Appellate Court upheld his conviction. In an opinion written by Judge David Schuman, the court agreed that the Legislature had the authority to prevent this form of harm based on its intent to provoke violence.

The U.S. Supreme Court has also ruled that there are limits to free speech under the First Amendment when there is a specific intent to create harm. You can't yell "fire" in a crowded theater, nor can you create a hostile work environment using sexually suggestive remarks.

I wonder how the ACLU Board would have felt being maliciously tailgated by the defendant's truck, a potentially lethal weapon?

In less than a month arguments will be presented by Johnson's attorney to the Oregon Supreme Court challenging the appellate ruling. Accompanying the ruling will be an amicus curiae brief provided by the American Civil Liberties Union agreeing that his free speech was violated and that the ORS is unconstitutional under Article 1 Section 8 of the Oregon Constitution.

Normally, I have a great deal of respect for the work of the ACLU. In this instance, however, I strongly disagree. This is not some intellectual game. This is about specific behavior that adds to the violence in our society. The ACLU argues that the defendant did not threaten the driver with any harm. I wonder how the ACLU Board would have felt being maliciously tailgated by the defendant's truck, a potentially lethal weapon? The intent of Johnson's speech and actions are clear.

ORS 166.065 is an important statute, and it needs to remain intact. If it doesn't, all Oregonians will be at risk.

Alan Brown is a web designer and computer consultant, and local LGBT activist.

learn something new. Yes, *EW* could run stories written by the Latinos in our community, and I am confident that their stories would be entertaining, informative and probably uncomfortable as well. Their voices, along with others from the Vietnamese, Korean, Native American and other communities deserve to be heard, and certainly more often than National fill-in-the-blank Week. Maybe a forum for these voices could be the focus of a future *EW* column. If enough readers requested such a column, I'm sure *EW* would be open to the idea.

Thank you, *EW*, for bringing us "¡Ask a Mexican!" and maintaining a forum for free speech. And thank you, Eugene, for being so passionate and vocal about so many issues. Just please be careful not to close your mind too quickly!

Chris Sprague
Eugene

WILL GABACHOS GET IT?

I was delighted when the *Weekly* decided to run Gustavo Arellano's "¡Ask a Mexican!" column. I thought, "Finally, a *Weekly* columnist who looks like my family, and who isn't afraid to take on issues I find important in a fresh, well-researched and humorous way."

Then, I began reading the letters to the editor. I was struck by how many were written "on behalf of" local Latinos. Many letter-writ-

ers had impressive Latino-loving credentials, and one even offered to send in names of local Latinos who would be willing to write a column of their own (I bet some of his or her best friends are Latino). What I noticed, too, was the dearth of letters from actual Latinos. Maybe it's because, like me, they were alternately jumping for joy that "¡Ask a Mexican!" was running in the *Weekly* and shaking their heads wondering if the *gabachos* would ever "get it."

I am one Mexican who doesn't need anyone to speak on her behalf. I have enjoyed the "¡Ask a Mexican!" column online for some time and am glad it's running in the *Weekly*.

Progressive, liberal, well-meaning, paternalistic, *gabacho* racism is still racism.

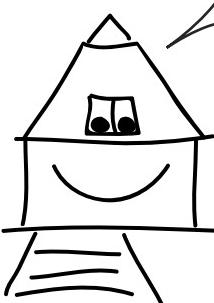
Racquel-Maria Yamada
Eugene

SQUANDERED TIME

Your look at Kyoto 10 years on (cover story, 12/6) served as a stark reminder not only of how quickly time passes, but of how squandering time when facing urgent matters has the almost inevitable tendency of both worsening them and narrowing the options available to address them.

There is no more urgent matter facing us than that of global climate change. The efforts of the apocalyptically fervent and of well-paid corporate charlatans to deflect concern to the

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Tradition, tradition

Check your calendar — Hanukkah is over. Because it's a lunar holiday, sometimes Hanukkah falls early in December, so there's no need to keep wishing your Jewish friends a happy one as you bustle by with your red and green ear ornaments bobbing merrily. We've already lit our candles, spun our dreidels and eaten our potato latkes, and now we're done, thank you very much.

That may come as a surprise to people who think of Hanukkah as "The Jewish Christmas." It's not. Despite its proximity to the dominant culture's annual consumer frenzy, the Festival of Lights is a minor holiday on the Hebrew calendar. And contrary to comments by one well-meaning clueless person, the only difference between the two holidays is not that "Christians believe that Jesus was born on Christmas, and Jews believe He was born on Hanukkah." Sorry.

Truth be known, Hanukkah is the eight days during which Jews around the world attempt to set their homes on fire. We came close this year, stopping just short of calling 9-1-1.

There's something to be said for sticking to tradition. But rebels that we are, Wifey and I strayed from buying our customary box of 44 Israeli paraffin candles from the synagogue gift shop, and, with complete directions clipped from *Living* magazine, we rolled our own, very classy, beeswax Hanukkah candles. Martha promised that these candles would, and I quote, "Give your celebration a special glow." She should've stuck to insider trading.

On Thanksgiving (call me testy, but yes, Jews do celebrate Thanksgiving!) we worked on our craft project while our holiday feast roasted in the oven. What were we thinking?

As anyone versed in S/M safety can tell you — once you remove their ball gag — beeswax burns hotter than paraffin. A lot hotter. A drip of beeswax will raise a blister; paraffin just stings. Not something you're likely to forget. But we remembered too late.

Hanukkah had us focused on our annual tradition. Wifey dusted off our beautiful, blue-glass menorah, given lovingly to us by our Jewish lesbian circle of friends on the occasion of our nuptials. Our custom is to observe the eight-night candlelighting ritual in front of our fire place, lighting the candles in the menorah on the mantle. Each night we offer a prayer of thanks to our ancestors, exchange small gifts and eat chocolate money.

Normally we just hang out, hold hands, and gaze into the flickering candlelight contemplating the spirit of the holiday, which, by the way, celebrates Jewish resistance to assimilation. But this particular year, on the eighth night, with all the candles aflame, Wifey and I broke with that tradition, too. We left our lit menorah on the mantel while we turned our attention to the TV. That's how we learned why watching television is not a traditional Hanukkah activity.

It's amazing how much smoke can fill your house before you notice it. Who knew they could make something that looks exactly like real glass out of run-of-the-mill, highly flammable resin? In a moment of religious insight, it occurred to me that the bush Moses saw burning in the desert may have not been a shrub at all but rather a replica made of this very resin.

We could surmise that the two of us are the true chosen people among all Jews whose Hanukkah flames are limited to their piddly little candle wicks. Martha sure was right about that special glow. An entire menorah crackling in full blaze is an awesome sight. It makes the word God just fly out of your mouth.

That's what it did to Wifey who, it turns out, can run pretty fast carrying a flaming glob of melting resin. God was invoked repeatedly. Nothing short of Divine intervention could have provided her the wherewithal to grab our NOT-GLASS menorah by its still-cool base, rush it out the door into the pouring rain and ditch it on the front steps.

So no, our holidays are not interchangeable. If you notice that some Jews are particularly cranky this time of year, please don't wish us a Happy Hanukkah. We've already had one.

Award-winning writer Sally Sheklow celebrates at home with her partner of 20 years, two cats and a good, strong fire extinguisher.

WHO YOU GONNA BLAME?

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



them in zoos. Is it too late to save us from ourselves?

No, it is not. But we must become every one of us good stewards of the environment upon which our lives ultimately depend. Ours is an interesting planet. It deserves all the attention we can give it.

Todd Huffman,
M.D.
Eugene

HUMORLESS FRINGE

The recent cries of protest against "Ask a Mexican!"

have been sadly unsurprising. I expect the reaction from the right: "Illegals are ruining our nation!" What makes me sad is how I was also unsurprised by the knee-jerk offense expressed by the liberal white "Latino/a friends."

Arellano writes a smart, funny column and does not pull punches. He takes on the Minutemen in-your-face racism as well as the liberal "some of my best friends are Mexicans" racism, and he does it with humor. Please don't let the humorless fringe groups convince you to drop this wonderful column.

Jeff Yamada
Eugene

contrary, the role of human beings in causing our planetary fever has been established scientifically with about the same degree of certainty as the role of alcohol in drunk-driving. We are altering the climate and toxifying the air, water, and soil to such degree that the present and future health of humans and of all earthly life is at growing risk.

Not content with having subdued nature, we are rapidly proceeding to beat it to a pulp. Such is the central conceit of our age: that the trees in the forest stand ready solely for us to cut them down, that the mountain peaks stand majestic solely for us to blast them flat, that the animals in the wild exist solely for us to put

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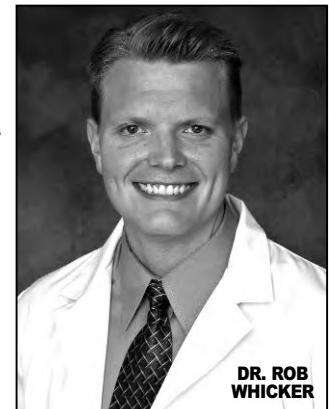
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PITCHFORK REBELLION VS. THE WOPR

The Pitchfork Rebellion, a coalition of forest-dwellers who originally got together to stop the spraying of herbicides near their homes, is now up against the BLM's Western Oregon Plan Revision (WOPR) which, according to Day Owen, will increase logging by 700 percent.

Owen and the Rebellion are holding a rally to stop the WOPR at noon Friday, Dec. 21 in front of the new U.S. Courthouse, 405 East 8th Avenue.

"Clearcutting is linked to the aerial spray of herbicides," says Owen. "We're already being sprayed by the private industry. If BLM was to get their preferred option, Alternative 2, that would also increase the use of herbicides by a huge amount," he says.

After the rally, Owen and others plan to head over to the Eugene BLM office on Chad Drive and gather again at 2:30 pm. There they will seek to hand over a statement requesting the BLM not act on the WOPR until completion of the Interior Department's investigation into endangered species decisions influenced by former Deputy Assistant Secretary Julie MacDonald. The investigation, demanded by Oregon Sen. Ron Wyden, includes decisions about old-growth species like the northern spotted owl.

Speakers at the noon rally include Owen, former Congressman Jim Weaver, as well as activists and forest-dwellers. – *Camilla Mortensen*

WHITEAKER ELECTIONS

The power base appears to be changing in Eugene's Whiteaker neighborhood. Until last week's neighborhood elections, some Whiteaker residents were concerned that their "collective voice" was not being represented by a majority on the Whiteaker Community Council (WCC).

The neighborhood faces the prospect of condominiums and new home developments, according to a flyer that went out to Whiteaker homes last Tuesday. The development debate is in response to the Eugene City Council's Neighborhood Initiative Plan, which seeks to increase density in existing neighborhoods "thoughtfully." A number of the neighbors feared that they wouldn't have input on development in the Whiteaker.

Other neighborhood issues include planning bus rapid transit routes, the development of a railroad quiet zone, ways of dealing with homelessness and green neighborhoods, said Whiteaker resident Kari Johnson.

According to Marcella Monroe, at-large member of the WCC, "It is really important our neighborhood association doesn't become disempowered."

The board majority had reduced WCC board meetings to once every three months instead of once a month, said Monroe, and changed the WCC's long-standing "open community discussion" to what the flyer calls a "tightly controlled agenda prepared by the board."

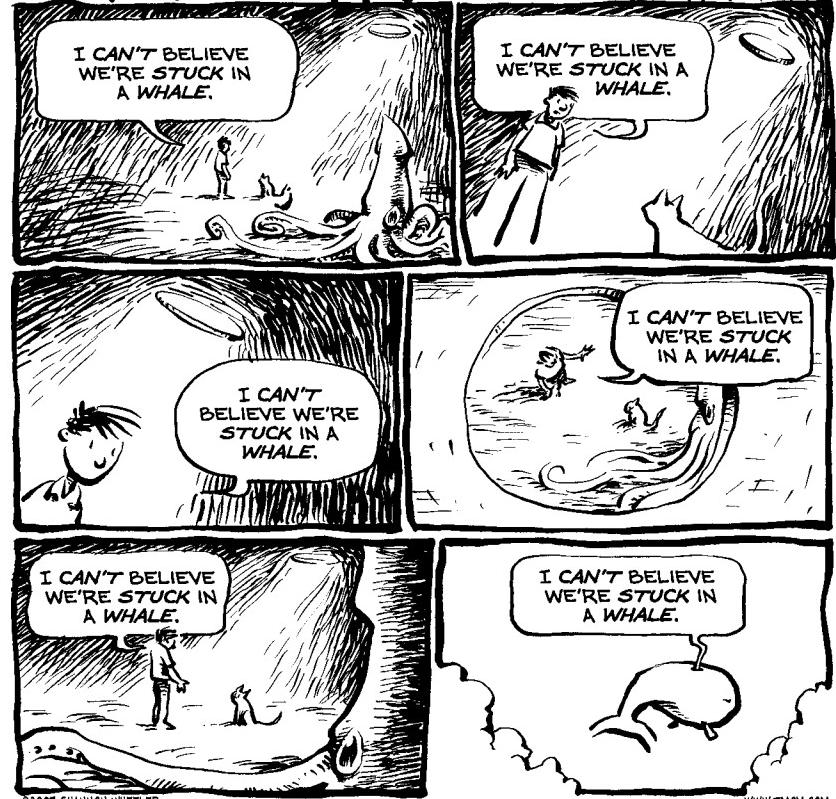
The WCC held midterm elections Dec. 12 to fill six vacant board positions and elect a vice chair and secretary. The previous vice chair resigned in June, citing "a consolidation of power" and "the active exclusion of particular ideas and individuals" in a letter of resignation.

Some residents were worried a contentious meeting would be held the day of the elections, said Johnson, but the city facilitator was "fantastic," and council candidates gave "rousing speeches."

After the elections, with a new majority in place on the council, the "concern is alleviated," said Majeska Seese-Green, one of the concerned neighbors. For election results, see the *EW*'s Dec. 13 blog. – *Camilla Mortensen*

HOW TO BE HAPPY

by Shannon Wheeler



news Briefs

SURVEY SAYS ROAD TAX WON'T PASS

An \$81 million bond measure for road repair that the city of Eugene has proposed putting on the May ballot will likely fail, according to a recent city survey.

The survey last month found only 50 percent support for a smaller, \$65 million road property tax, well shy of the 60 percent the survey consultant said was needed for a money measure before an election.

More people would likely oppose a larger bond measure, according to city polling consult-

ant Barry Pack, who conducted the Nov. 14-18 survey of 400 likely voters. The margin of error was 5 percent.

"Fifty percent is not a great place to start a tax measure," Pack told the council Dec. 12. He noted that during a campaign it's easier to convince people not to vote for more taxes than to vote for them. To have a chance to pass, "starting around 60 percent would be a good place."

The Eugene Chamber of Commerce and council conservatives have pushed the property tax as a substitute for an earlier proposal for a tax on parking spaces that would have shifted more of the tax burden from home owners to big box stores that generate high road use.

The council voted to pursue the road property tax, the largest tax increase in the city's history, after the road gas tax failed in November.

The survey showed that likely voters are split evenly on whether Eugene is on the right track in general. Of voters who have heard of Mayor Kitty Piercy, 56 percent have a favorable opinion, a 4 percent drop from a survey six months earlier.

The City Council's favorable rating dropped from 47 to 44 percent. Of survey respondents, 82 percent said the council was doing only a fair

BLAME THE BEER FRIDGE

In case you missed the breaking eco-news on the *EW* blog: A recent scientific study has revealed that the use of "beer fridges" by our neighbors to the north has a direct link to a lack of energy savings. The study, entitled: "Who Pays for the 'Beer' Fridge?: Evidence from Canada" explores the energy waste generated by households that when purchasing a new refrigerator, turn their older "vintage" one into a "beer fridge."

"Beer fridge" is the term employed by University of Alberta economist Denise Young in her research. *EW* didn't make it up.

"Older vintage 'beer fridges' are costly for households to run and impose costs on the environment," writes Young in her study published in the journal *Energy Policy*.

Also in breaking eco-news is the study published online in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* that says divorce is bad for the environment. The increasing numbers of divorces worldwide has led to more houses with fewer people in them.

The researchers found that divorce causes an increase in the number of houses constructed, which takes up energy and space. The new homes also use energy in heating and cooling.



The researchers' 2005 data showed that divorced households used an extra 73 billion kilowatt-hours of electricity and 627 billion gallons of water when compared to married households.

All of this energy consumption leads, as almost everyone seems to agree these days, to greenhouse gases and global warming.

Now, if you just add "beer fridges" into the equation – assuming here that a certain percentage of newly single divorced folks may want to indulge in the "beer fridge" practice – then you're talking about a lot of polar bears sliding into the sea off of the melting polar ice thanks to drinking and divorce.

Just what is the logical conclusion from these studies is not entirely clear, but perhaps it's save the earth by staying together – and drinking warm beer. – *Camilla Mortensen*

or poor job of revitalizing downtown. On fixing roads the fair/poor rating was 78 percent and spending tax dollars was 70 percent fair/poor. On being responsive to the needs and priorities of Eugene residents, 71 percent rated the council fair or poor.

The survey did not ask what voters' top priorities are. Nor did the survey ask for favorability ratings about city staff. Under the direction of the city manager, staff are largely responsible for most city actions, including designing the survey.—*Alan Pittman*

DOWNTOWN CODE LIMITS SURFACE PARKING LOTS

After a developer's opinion piece in *The Register-Guard* claimed that "Eugene's development code, more than anything else, is strangling downtown" by making it "virtually impossible" to build anything, there have been increasing calls for repealing the regulations.

Mayor Kitty Piercy and Councilor Mike Clark have publicly said the city should examine the issue, and so have a half dozen letters to the editor at the daily paper.

But the downtown code is there for a reason, and throwing it out could leave downtown looking like a suburban mall parking lot, according to city staff and documents.

Chapter 9 of the Eugene code describes the purpose of downtown code provisions requiring denser development: "The development standards are designed to encourage compact urban growth ... reduced reliance on the automobile, and a safe and pleasant pedestrian environment, by insuring an attractive streetscape, a functional mix of complementary uses, and provision of amenities that support the use of transit, bicycles, and pedestrian facilities."

To accomplish those goals, the code requires at least two-story buildings completely filling

sites in the small downtown core and at least one-story buildings filling sites on the edge of downtown. The code's "floor area ratio" (FAR) requirements are flexible; for example, they allow a developer to satisfy requirements on the edge of downtown by building a two story building on half of her site. The code also restricts new surface parking lots in the core of downtown to a maximum of 20 spaces.

Prichard claimed in the *R-G* and in a subsequent KEZI-TV report that the current U.S. Bank tower, The Tate condominium project, Newman's fish shop and the proposed KWG and Beam redevelopment projects could not be built downtown now.

The U.S. Bank building meets the FAR requirement, but its large adjacent surface parking lot exceeds the 20-space limit, according to city planner Nan Laurence. The KEZI report did not mention that there is a large, half-full city parking garage directly across the street from the bank.

The Tate building satisfies current code for its location on the edge of downtown, according to Laurence. If it were built in the downtown core, it would exceed FAR requirements but violate the 20-surface parking space limit, she said.

The one-story Newman's fish market with surrounding surface parking filling its site would likely violate code provisions for the downtown core and edge of downtown if it were built now the same way. A two-story building on half the site with the rest in parking might meet the code in that location, according to code provisions.

The KWG and Beam downtown redevelopment and rehabilitation proposals would have met the current code requirements, according to Laurence.

The WestTown on 8th affordable housing project is now being completed downtown and meeting city code.

"There are regulations in our current land use code that are confusing and contradictory, and changes to those provisions could make downtown development easier," Laurence said in an email. She added that staff are now "work-

SLANT

- **Holiday good wishes abound** in Eugene these days, and more than a few were expressed by a parade of gift-givers at City Club Dec. 14. The long list of virtual gifts included bringing the troops home from Iraq, sheltering the homeless, restoring the addicted, dispelling hate in the world with love, saving the Amazon headwaters, free parking downtown, recycling awareness and action, tango for everyone, a better attitude, scientific knowledge and the will to use it to benefit humanity, the gift of time to get to know each other, making Eugene a "Peace-Maker City," a new motto for Eugene: "A Great City for the Arts and Outdoors" and a strong ACL (anterior cruciate ligament) for UO footballer Dennis Dixon. Better late than never.

The guest speakers included John Attig, Alan Beck, George Evano, Felicity Fahy, Alder Fuller, David Funk, Lorraine Kerwood, Ev Marcel, Frank Nearing, Tulku Jigme Thrinley Rinpoche, Quinn Wilhelmi Reilly, Betty Snowden and Betty Taylor. Missed the program? Find it in the audio archives at KLCC (www.KLCC.org). Listening to these gifts is a good antidote for the less-than-joyful stresses of the holidays.

- The **Eugene City Council is wringing its hands** over the two recent failed votes and a negative post-election survey (see News Briefs). Conservatives hoping to unseat the centrist/progressive majority in coming elections argue that the negative feedback is a political right-turn signal from the voters. The truth is the opposite: The majority of people in Eugene don't want the city to become like every other city in America. That's why centrist and progressive candidates won in the last election and pro-sprawl interests lost. The problem today? Some of those centrist/progressives have forgotten why they were elected. They have pursued the city staff's unpopular agenda of corporate tax breaks, developer subsidies, bigger City Hall offices, parking garages and asphalt rather than the popular progressive interests.

- Letters about "**iAsk a Mexican!**" keep coming in, and we are hearing about a variety of groups around Lane County debating the virtues and failings of Gustavo Arellano. Book club or sewing circle getting boring? Add a little spice. After the holiday break, the provocative column might find its way into classroom discussions as well, if it hasn't already. Here are some suggested questions for "teachable moments":

How do the topics raised in "iAsk a Mexican!" relate to the national debate on immigration? Does this type of humor diminish or reinforce stereotypes? Are the issues facing local Latinos the same or different from issues facing Southern California Latinos? What are the local issues for Latino adults and children? Why is there a disparity of income between whites and non-whites in Lane County? What kinds of diversity can be found within the Latino communities? What are the generational differences? What are the preferred usages of terms such as Latino, Hispanic and Chicano?

Why does Eugene have so few people of color? What is the impact of Eugene's school choice system on the mixing of races and economic groups? What is the role of the police? Can privileged white people ever understand the experience of being a member of minority race in Eugene? Are white attitudes consistent with political leanings? Are diversity programs effective? Where do we get our personal racial and cultural prejudices, and how do we temper them?

We're not suggesting from on high; we have these talks too. And we're hoping that a variety of local Latino and Latina voices can participate in the discussions, specifically by writing columns for the *EW*. That's one gift we'd love to get for Yule.

- More than **28,000 U.S. military personnel** have been wounded badly enough in Iraq to require air evacuation, and many end up in long and painful rehabilitation. Regardless of how we might feel about Bush/Cheney and their illegal war, the wounded are not to blame. Here's a suggestion we've seen making the rounds. When you are making out your Christmas card list this year, think about sending one to: A Recovering American Soldier, Walter Reed Army Medical Center, 6900 Georgia Avenue NW, Washington, D.C. 20307-5001.

SLANT includes short opinion pieces, observations and rumor-chasing notes compiled by the EW staff. Heard any good rumors lately? Contact Ted Taylor at 484-0519, editor@eugeneweekly.com

Lane Area Herbicide Spray Schedule

- **Lane Vegetation Management Advisory Committee** (VMAC) has voted 6-2 in favor of spraying herbicides around guardrails and to eliminate noxious weeds instead of using manual or mechanical means of control. The vote was in defiance of the considerations for

health as mandated by the Lane Board of Health and the Last Resort Herbicide Use Policy. The issue will come before the Board of Commissioners as early as Jan. 2. Call your county commissioner at 682-4203 to register your concerns.

Happening people

BY PAUL NEEVEL

CURT AND CATHY BRODNER

For 18 years in Boulder, then Gunnison, Colo., Michigan natives Curt and Cathy Brodner ran a specialty machine shop and engineering firm. "Inventors came to us," says Curt Brodner. "We made their dreams reality." But when their younger daughter left for college in 1998, the Brodnars sold the business, their house and possessions and flew to Madrid with a tandem bicycle and a Burley trailer. "We bicycled through 27 countries in two years," says Cathy. Stopping over in Thailand, they started several vocational projects in refugee camps, most notably a manufacturing facility for ceramic water filters, porous pottery bowls that filter out bacteria and protozoa. "Water-borne illness is the largest killer of children under age 5," says Curt, displaying one of the filters. The Brodnars settled in Eugene early in 2005 but soon returned to Asia to distribute 6,000 filters to the region affected by the tsunami of December 2004. With funding from UNICEF, the Brodnars established a filter factory in Myanmar in 2006. Another is planned for India in 2008. Learn more about the filters online (www.thirst-aid.org).





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news briefs

drawing as therapy

by harvey dickson



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ing on possible code amendment strategies."

In response to Prichard, Art Farley, a former Eugene Planning Commission member, wrote a letter to the *R-G* pointing out that rather than removing code provisions downtown to level the playing field with suburban development, the city could expand the density requirements to sprawling development. "I'd rather raise our expectations regarding development elsewhere than lower our hopes for downtown."

—Alan Pittman

ing wage is defined as a wage that allows a family to meet basic needs without public assistance while providing some ability to save for emergencies.

"This report highlights a fact that many of us already knew — that people of color are disproportionately trapped in low-wage work," said Oregon Action Organizer Geri Washington.

Solutions to closing the gap include the creation of living wage jobs, expanding education and training opportunities and investing in programs that meet basic needs, according to the report. "If we're serious about closing the job gap, then it's time for decision makers to create and enact race conscious policies to raise the wages for all Oregon's workers," said Connie Ashbrook, executive director of the Oregon Tradeswomen Inc. The report is available online (www.nwfco.org).

RACIAL WAGE DISPARITIES

Fifty-five percent of current jobs in the Oregon economy do not pay a living wage for a family of four with both parents working, and for people of color the situation is even worse, according to the latest report from the Northwest Federation of Community Organizations. "The Race for Wages: Jobs in the Current Economy" was released this week by Oregon Action.

"This holiday season is not a merry time for many families in Oregon," said Clayborn Collins, a businessman and board member of Oregon Action. "Families forced to make trade-offs between basic needs all year round face even greater burdens at this time when heating costs are high and things like presents under the tree need to be traded off, too, because the money just isn't there."

While all workers and family sizes are chal-

A CASE FOR HEARINGS

The U.S. House of Representatives voted Nov. 7 to send a resolution of impeachment of Vice President Cheney to the Judiciary Committee, and several members of the House Judiciary Committee are pushing for the hearings to go forward. The impeachment language in HR 333 was written by Rep. Dennis Kucinich (D-Ohio).

"The issues at hand are too serious to ignore, including credible allegations of abuse of power that if proven may well constitute high crimes

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WAR DEAD

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(last week's numbers in parentheses):

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(3,887)
- **28,661 U.S. troops injured***
(28,451)
- **132 U.S. military suicides***
(130)
- **307 coalition troops killed****
(306)
- **933 contractors killed**
(accurate updates NA)
- **85,711 to one million Iraqi civilians killed*****
(85,072)
- **\$477.8 billion cost of war**
(\$475.9 billion)
- **\$135.3 million cost to Eugene taxpayers**
(\$135.3 million)

* through Dec. 17, 2007; source: icasualties.org; some figures only updated monthly

** estimate; source: icasualties.org

*** highest estimate; source: iraqbodycount.org; based on confirmed media reports; other groups calculate civilian deaths as high as 655,000 to one million

and misdemeanors under our Constitution," says Judiciary Committee member Robert Wexler (D-Fla.) in an op-ed sent to newspapers across the nation. "The charges against Vice President Cheney relate to his deceptive actions leading up to the Iraq War, the revelation of the identity of a covert agent for political retaliation, and the illegal wiretapping of American citizens.???"

Wexler is gathering supporters at his website WexlerWantsHearings.com and has gathered nearly 90,000 names so far to pass on to Congress.

"Even if the hearings do not lead to removal from office, putting these grievous abuses on the

record is important for the sake of history," Wexler writes. "For an administration that has consistently skirted the Constitution and asserted that it is above the law, it is imperative for Congress to make clear that we do not accept this dangerous precedent. Our Founding Fathers provided Congress the power of impeachment for just this reason, and we must now at least consider using it.???"

be closed Tuesday, Dec. 25 and Tuesday, Jan. 1. Early deadlines for reserving display ads will be 5 pm Thursday, Dec. 21 and 5 pm Thursday, Dec. 28. For more information, call 484-0519.

CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

In Slant last week, we said a "small but hardy group of adventurers" showed up for a planned hike into the Devil's Staircase Dec. 2. But this week we heard from one of those who made the trip that the group numbered 30 to 40 people. Group leader James Johnston counted 30, including himself. We still think they were hardy.

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City Hall Design

Project cost grows while popularity shrinks

With a new Eugene City Hall shrinking in popularity despite more than \$2 million spent on design and PR work, Mayor Kitty Piercy says she's glad the big building won't be up for a vote anytime soon.

"Holding off for a while on the City Hall makes good sense," Piercy said of the council's recent decision to delay a City Hall vote until at least 2010. "We have some work to do."

City architects have fleshed out the design of the new building and its price tag, which is now up to \$188 million.

While the cost continues to escalate, public support for the new city offices is dropping. Only 41 percent support a property tax increase for a \$155 million City Hall, according to a November city survey. That's down from 43 percent support in a May survey. The survey consultant said 60 percent support was needed in such an early tax measure poll for a good chance of success.

The survey found such low support for a new City Hall despite a survey question pushing voters with positive arguments for the building. The survey of 401 likely voters was conducted Nov. 14-18 and had a margin of error of 5 percent.

The city's Portland architecture team from Thomas Hacker, Inc. unveiled a flat-

roofed, glass and steel design up to six stories with a large atrium, exterior louvers, a water feature and small entry plaza. The building could include green building features such as active and passive solar elements, green roofs, rainwater recovery and ample bike parking. A less green 200-car garage would

Eugene draft City Hall design by Thomas Hacker Architects of Portland. Check www.eugeneweekly.com for more designs.



be built on one level under the building.

Several councilors said the design should do more to reflect Eugene.

"I prefer a much more Northwest feel," with wood instead of "steel and glass," Councilor Bonny Bettman said.

With more wood and peaked roofs, Councilor Alan Zelenka said, "you would say that's a Northwest building as opposed to something built in Kansas."

Councilors preferred an embedded council chamber rather than a proposed cylindrical structure on the plaza that some compared to a lumber mill "wigwam burner."

Landscape consultant Doug Macy said the city could avoid planting "precious" large trees around the building to avoid "people tying themselves to trees in protest to expanding the building." No mention was made of preserving any of the large trees now growing around and through the current City Hall.

Bettman said the staff and council majority's decision to move most police officers out of City Hall to a \$25 million suburban-style building near 2nd and Chambers will hurt voter support. She pointed out a separate police headquarters has already failed three times at the polls.

The new suburban design will be even more controversial, according to Bettman. "It's a sprawl model" that "flies in the face of all our growth management principals," Bettman said. The suburban building with big surface lots is "contrary to sustainability in every way" and will "cancel out any benefit we get" from building a green City Hall downtown, she said.

City executive Jim Carlson suggested

recently that the city could avoid another vote on the police building by dedicating all of its large existing facility reserve to the police rather than to a City Hall downtown.

Councilor Zelenka said he favored moving police out of downtown to save having to build a parking garage. But he said, "I'm not really interested in building a new patrol facility without a new City Hall."

Despite its suburban location, the police building would actually cost more per square foot than the City Hall downtown, consultants estimate. The police building comes in at \$742 per square foot compared to \$629 per square foot for the City Hall building. By comparison, a 1,200 sq. ft. home built at the same square-foot-cost as the police building would cost \$890,000 to build.

With escalating costs and dropping support, some councilors are looking for other options. Councilors Betty Taylor and Bettman and Mayor Piercy suggested a re-examination of building City Hall in the Sears pit across from the library now that a development proposal for the site has fallen through.

City staff suggested a smaller, \$154 million City Hall design. But that could include the city spending \$7 million to renovate part of the adjacent Federal Building and then paying rent.

With a new City Hall growing more distant, Councilor Taylor said the city should fix up the dirty, chipping paint and rip off the useless, jail-like bars on the existing facility. "My choice is this building." **EW**

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Four Meetings

What really goes on at the Pacifica Forum

In a Nov. 27 letter to the editor of *The Register-Guard*, Orval Etter, leader of the Pacifica Forum discussion group, and 15 co-signers denied accusations that the group is anti-Semitic and promoting bigotry. They concluded the letter with the following statement: "All who wish accurate information about what goes on at the forum are urged to attend rather than depend on letters to the editor or on hearsay, gossip or rumor."

With that in mind, here is what I experienced when I attended the last four meetings of Pacifica Forum.

Etter is a retired UO associate professor, an expert in municipal law and policy and a cellist known for organizing concert series. The meetings described each had about 15 to 25 attendees.

November 9

Etter spent the first 15 minutes discussing a symposium on Holocaust denial that UO professors had put on the previous night in response to Pacifica Forum's bringing revisionist historian Mark Weber to campus on Nov. 4. Etter claimed Weber's speech was about Israel policy, not Holocaust denial, and that the symposium constituted an ad hominem attack on Weber.

The meeting took place on the 69th anniversary of Kristallnacht, an event where Jewish property was destroyed in the early years of Nazi Germany. In recognition of that, Etter discussed a book that he didn't give the name of until the end of his presentation — *Flashpoint* by Ingrid Weckert, who has been convicted and fined in Germany for denying the Holocaust. The point of the book, as Etter described it, was that Kristallnacht was perpetrated on Jews by Jews to make the Nazis look bad.

Numerous meeting attendees spent a question and answer period yelling at Michael Williams, a member of the Community Alliance of Lane County's (CALC) Anti-Hate Task Force who has been

monitoring Pacifica Forum meetings since 2003, accusing him of having driven away previous forum sponsors such as the Wesley Center and the UO Survival Center. Williams denied the accusations, saying that someone else had given the Wesley Center a document he had written and that the Survival Center had asked to talk to him. Another meeting attendee burst into shouting about Zionist control of the media.

November 16

Pacifica Forum attendees spent the first 15 minutes of this meeting, titled "Elie Wiesel's Hate," complaining about a Nov. 13 letter to the editor in the *R-G* by Judy Dellar that criticized the group. Etter also circulated the letter that ran in the *R-G* on Nov. 27.

Etter distributed photocopied pages from some of Wiesel's books and focused his lecture on a paragraph from Wiesel's 1968 *Legends of our Time* in which Wiesel said it was healthy for Jews to hate the perpetrators of the Holocaust. Etter argued that this statement negated Wiesel's later writings about peace.

Valdas Anelauskas, a controversial Lithuanian immigrant and writer, presented a slide show during which he said the editing process that produced the English translation of Wiesel's famous *Night* removed hostility toward Germans that had existed in the original Yiddish version.

At the end of the meeting, Etter told Williams he would be glad to have the Anti-Hate Task Force and local Jewish leaders make a presentation refuting Wiesel's "doctrine of hate." Williams told Etter to make an

offer in writing and that he would consider it.

"There hasn't been anything presented about a doctrine of hate," Williams said. "There's been a lot of ranting and a lot of rambling."

(As of Dec. 17, Williams said he still had not received such an offer from Pacifica Forum. He added in an e-mail, "From past experience, I think this is something they like to say in order to show how open they are, but it is not something they have ever followed through on.")

November 30

This meeting, which was the first of a two-part series on Pearl Harbor, consisted of viewing a videotaped lecture by Gregory Douglas. Etter noted while introducing the video that while he sees Douglas' views as

similar to those of revisionist historians David Irving and Mark Weber, even Weber and Irving dislike Douglas. (Weber described Douglas' work as an "elaborate hoax" on the Institute of Historical Review website.)

Douglas claims Winston Churchill had warned Franklin Roosevelt about Japanese ships approaching Pearl Harbor in advance of the attack on Dec. 7, 1941, but that Roosevelt chose to ignore the warning in order to get the U.S. involved in WWII. The bulk of the lecture focused on a book Douglas had written about Nazi Gestapo chief Heinrich Müller, who he claimed moved to Washington, D.C., after the war and advised the U.S. government on how to handle communists.

(The CIA file on Müller, now declassified and available through the National Archives online, says the CIA didn't know Müller's whereabouts after he disappeared in May 1945.)

Later, after denying that he was a conspiracy theorist, Douglas described how the

burning of the Branch Davidians' compound in Waco, Texas, and the bombing of the Oklahoma City federal building were perpetrated by the U.S. government, and he said that the U.S. government was capable of using cable TV boxes as receivers to eavesdrop on people in their homes.

December 7

Etter circulated a Bob Herbert syndicated column, stating that the Democratic Party lacked vision, to be signed by those in agreement and sent to Oregon's congressional delegation.

"This forum is more than an information forum," he said. "It's an action forum."

Etter said he had recently been complimented by two people, neither of whom had attended a forum, for his role in carrying on Pacifica Forum.

"If we sometimes think we're a voice crying in the wilderness," he said, "we're not."

Etter said that during the 1930s, he was apprehensive about the coming world war, and that Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor silenced isolationists and pacifists like him. He read an article entitled "The First Casualty" that he had written for the magazine *Fellowship* in 1951. In the article, he wrote that myths about WWII were peddled to the American people and that some Axis attacks on the U.S. were secretly provoked by the U.S. in order to increase support for the war.

Jimmy Marr discussed the book *Pearl Harbor: The Story of the Secret War* by George Morgenstern, which Weber had given the group. He said the U.S. provoked Japan to war through diplomatic demands, trade sanctions and embargoes.

Etter went on to say that the commonly accepted story of Pearl Harbor is more unbelievable than any novel and that the truth might come out if Americans were more accepting of accounts such as that of Douglas.

The meetings described in this article all took place in McKenzie Hall on the UO campus. The next meeting on Jan. 11 will take place in the Erb Memorial Union's Walnut Room; Etter said the EMU director requested the group move to a more supervised area because of controversy over Mark Weber. **CW**

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Santa Exposed

From Turkish saints to mushroom-tripping shaman

BY CAMILLA MORTENSEN

So how did a Turkish saint wind up a “jolly old elf” living at the North Pole? Santa Claus is the result of what folklorists call polygenesis. The roots of what became the guy in the red suit come from all over the world, but in particular they came from the Nordic regions.

Yes, Eugene, there is a Santa Claus. And though many will tell you our modern image of the jolly red elf comes from a cross between “Twas the Night Before Christmas” and Coca-Cola advertisements, it’s a little more than that. Turns out that Santa is a mixture of a Middle-Eastern saint, some Scandinavian elves and a little bit of mushroom-eating Sámi shamanism thrown in for good measure. Our modern celebration of Christmas is neither just a commercial enterprise nor a purely religious celebration; it’s a melting pot of folklore from around the world.

*Frosty the Snowman
Knew the sun was hot that day
So he said “Let’s run
And we’ll have some fun
Now before I melt away.”*
— “Frosty the Snowman,” Steve Nelson and Jack Rollins

In the summer of 2000, visitors to the Arctic were shocked to see that for the first time in 50 million years, there was water rather than ice at the North Pole. The ice continues to melt at a “record pace,” said scientists at November 2007 meeting of the American Geophysical Union. As most American kids know, the Arctic is home to polar bears and Santa’s workshop, both of which are in danger of sliding off the melting ice into the sea due to global warming. Luckily the Bush administration recently agreed to many (but not all) of the stipulations towards reducing greenhouse gases at the international climate conference in Bali. After all, who wants to be known as the first American president to drown Santa Claus?

The original St. Nick would not have fared so well at the cold North Pole. According to legend, St. Nicholas was born around A.D. 245 in a much warmer place — what is now Turkey. As the story goes he was a rich and generous man who began giving away money to the poor and to children. He became the Catholic bishop of Myra and was later sainted after performing several miracles.

One of the miracles involved a poor man with three daughters. He had no dowry for marriage, and without dowries they were destined to become prostitutes. St. Nicholas tossed sacks of gold in through the windows of their house for the first two daughters, but the window was closed the night he tried to provide gold for the third girl. So he dropped the sack down the chimney. This, according to Dr. Roger Highfield, in his book *The Physics of Christmas*, is why people hang stockings by the fire — to catch the gold.

*His eyes-how they twinkled! his dimples how merry!
His cheeks were like roses, his nose like a cherry!
His droll little mouth was drawn up like a bow,
And the beard of his chin was as white as the snow.*

*The stump of a pipe he held tight in his teeth,
And the smoke it encircled his head like a wreath.
He had a broad face and a little round belly,
That shook when he laughed, like a bowlful of jelly!*
— *A Visit from St. Nicholas*

So how did a Turkish saint wind up a “jolly old elf” living at the North Pole? Santa Claus is the result of what folklorists call polygenesis. The roots of what became the guy in the red suit come from all over the world, but in particular they came from the Nordic regions.

As Christianity spread over the next several hundred years after St. Nicholas, it became traditional to give gifts to children on Dec. 6, St. Nicholas’ Feast Day. Meanwhile in Scandinavia, prior to Christianization, it was believed that the Norse god Odin would have a hunting party at Yule (the time of the winter solstice). Children would leave tasty treats for Odin’s eight-legged horse Sleipnir (hmmm eight legs, eight reindeer), and Odin would leave gifts or candy for the kids.

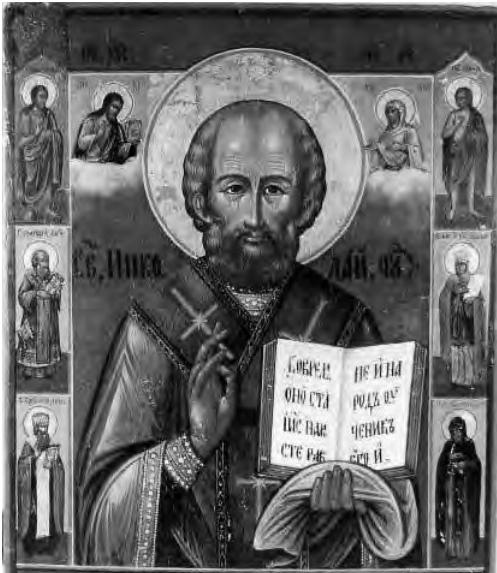
Santa’s elves demand treats too. Elves come from Scandinavian folklore, where they are *nisse* in Denmark and Norway and *tomte* in Sweden. Norwegian tradition *nisse* “typically lived in barns and helped the farmers throughout the year, so long as they were rewarded each Christmas. So Norwegians put out a bowl of porridge for the *nisse*, rather than milk and cookies,” says Ellen Rees, a professor in Scandinavian at the UO. If people were rude to a *nisse* or didn’t give him his porridge, he would take revenge — breaking things or tying the cows’ tails together, for instance.



Odin and his 8-legged horse

Norwegian *nisse* “have white beards, red stocking caps, a sweater and knickers with suspenders,” says Rees. Their outfits haven’t changed much over the years and coordinate nicely with Santa’s red suit.

In the early 1800s, it was the *julenisse* (Christmas elves) who brought gifts to good



The original St. Nick



A group of Norwegian Nisse

Before becoming a gift-giver, the *julebuk* was known for scaring children and demanding gifts for himself. In fact many early versions of Santa Claus were not benevolent bearers of gifts but punishers of ill-behaved children. Santa's sack originally held not gifts but naughty children.

The name Santa Claus itself is thought to come from the Dutch *Sinter Klaas*, which was a colloquialism for St. Nicholas. *Sinter Klaas* was often depicted with a long beard, hat and pipe. His costume was often green and sometimes even purple. The tradition of giving gifts to children in honor of St. Nick came to the U.S. with early Dutch settlers, in the late 1700s. *Sinter Klaas* became St. A. Claus in a 1773 newspaper story, according to The-North-Pole.com

The name Kris Kringle comes from an Americanization of the German *Christkindl* or Christ child. The idea of the *Christkindl* was introduced by the Protestant reformer Martin Luther, who wanted to get away from the Catholic saint associations of St. Nicholas.

St. Nicholas appears in Washington Irving's 1809 *A History of New York* (Please note: Irving is also the guy responsible for the Headless Horseman). It was Irving who described him in a wagon flying above the trees and "laying his finger beside his nose."

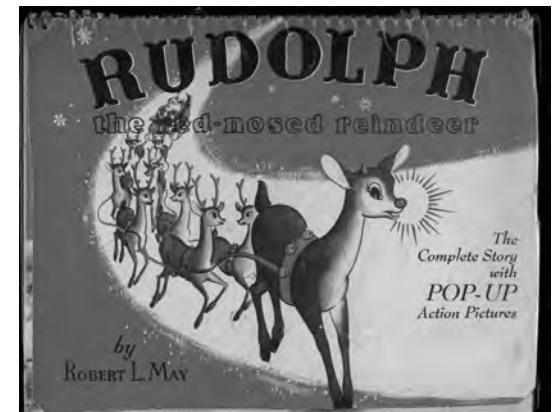
By the time either Clement Clarke Moore or Henry Livingston Jr. — there's some dispute as to the authorship — anonymously published "Twas the Night Before Christmas," aka "A Visit from St. Nicholas," in a New York newspaper in 1823, the image of Santa as a jolly pudgy man in a red suit had already made its way into public folklore. The poem just cemented his features.

boys and girls in Scandinavia, and this soon became blended with other Santa traditions. Scandinavian children were probably grateful for the *julenisse* because before the 1800s, it was a *julebuk* or Christmas goat that brought presents. Rather than dress up like Santa Claus, nineteenth century Scandinavian men got to dress up as goats.

*He sees you when you're sleeping,
He knows when you're awake;
He knows if you've been bad or good,
So be good, for goodness' sake!
Oh, you better watch out, you better not cry,
Better not pout, I'm telling you why:
Santa Claus is comin' to town.
— "Santa Claus is Comin' to Town," Haven Gillespie*

Santa's move to the North Pole was probably a creation of artist Thomas Nast, according to an article on a *Harper's Weekly* history website (www.HarpWeek.com). Nast illustrated Santa for *Harper's Weekly* in the 1860s. Having Santa living in the Arctic may have come from the interest at that time in Arctic exploration and also because the Pole was not possessed by any one nation (though nations are fighting over it now). Nast also reinforced the whole "naughty or nice" idea. He was a German immigrant and probably familiar with the scary German *Belznickel* or "furry Nicholas," who left bad children ashes, along with other Germanic Santa figures who were just as apt to whip children as they were to give them presents.

The jolly red Santa image was reinforced further in 1931 in a series of advertisements for Coca-Cola. Coke is sometimes credited for creating the Santa we know today, but the advertisements reflected what was already appearing on Christmas cards and in folklore. Coke removed Santa's pipe, replaced it with a bottle of soda and used him to persuade people that Coke could be drunk in cold as well as warm weather with the slogan, "Thirst knows no season."



Rudolph in pop-up book form

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*Rudolph, the red-nosed reindeer,
Had a very shiny nose.
And if you ever saw it,
You would even say it glows.*
—Johnny Marks

St. Nicholas probably became associated with reindeer through the fascination outsiders have had for the land of the Sámi (once known as Lapland) since the publication of Johannes Schefferus' 1673 *Lapponia*. So says professor Troy Storfjell of Pacific Lutheran University, who studies the Sámi, the indigenous peoples of circumpolar Scandinavia.

Reindeer antlers were used in British winter solstice celebrations and dances dating back to at least 1226, but Santa's association with reindeer first shows up in print in "A Visit from St. Nicholas." The association was solidified, says Storfjell, when an American businessman, Carl Lomen, took a herd of 76 reindeer with accompanying Sámi and Inuit herders on tour across the U.S. He was prompted by the "Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus" editorial published in the *New York Sun* in 1897. Lomen wasn't trying to promote Santa; he was actually trying to sell reindeer meat.

The fact that Santa's reindeer fly may well also be tied into an explanation of why Santa usually wears a red suit, according to an article by mycologist Jonathan Ott. Santa's red hat with its white pom-pom looks a lot like *Amanita muscaria*, commonly called fly agaric. *A. muscaria* is the cool-looking mushroom with a bright red cap spotted with white you might remember from books of fairy tales or even the 1980s cartoon *The Smurfs*.

Victorian-era travelers in the 1800s came home with stories of exotic reindeer and of fly agaric consumption in Siberia and the far north that would have made their way



Amanita muscaria

into the folklore of the time. *A. muscaria* can be quite poisonous, and a related mushroom called death cap is lethal. However as reindeer (called caribou in the U.S.) know, fly agaric will also make you hallucinate. According to a 1989 book by Ronald Siegel called *Intoxication*, reindeer eat the mushrooms and become so inebriated they stagger around and sometimes wind up getting eaten by wolves.

Sámi shaman, called *noaidi*, were said to eat the dried mushrooms themselves or to feed the fresh mushrooms to the reindeer to remove the more toxic elements and then consume reindeer urine. Some claim this trance induced by consuming the urine of one who has eaten the hallucinogenic shrooms is the origin of the phrase "to get pissed." The hallucinations brought on by *A. muscaria* include a feeling of flying. During the trance brought on by the mushrooms, writes Roger Highfield, the shaman's soul would "leave the body as an animal and fly to the otherworld to communicate with the spirits." So our modern American Santa may have his origins in indigenous hallucinogenic religious traditions.

The Sámi have many words for different kinds of reindeer, but it's doubtful any of those words involve describing one with a red nose. Rudolph the red-nosed reindeer raised Santa's herd to nine when he appeared in 1939 thanks to a Montgomery Ward advertising campaign. Montgomery Ward executives were a bit concerned that the idea of a red nose would associate Rudolph with drunkards, writes Snopes.com, but Rudolph was soon a hit, and later a hit song.

So Santa as we know him — the jolly fat man in the red suit with flying reindeer — is a folk tradition stemming from Catholic saints, Scandinavian elves and tripping shamans, made more famous by various newspapers and advertising campaigns. Is his workshop going to slip into the sea with the rest of the ice at the North Pole? That remains to be seen, but Santa himself will live on and maybe even continue to change.

As Francis P. Church once wrote to Virginia: "Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus."

ew

*He sprang to his sleigh, to his team gave a whistle,
And away they all flew like the down of a thistle.
But I heard him exclaim, 'ere he drove out of sight,
"Happy Christmas to all, and to all a good-night!"
— "A Visit from St. Nicholas"*

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**by Thursday at noon for the following Thursday publication.
For any questions about calendar listings call: 484-0519**

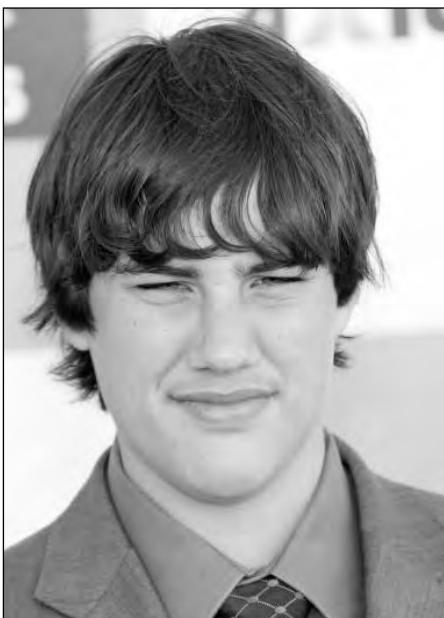
www.eugeneweekly.com

WHAT'S happening



If you passed on both Actors Cabaret of Eugene's and Willamette Rep's *A Christmas Carol* this year out of sheer exhaustion from the subject matter (you too!), we can assure you the one-night, one-man show ***A Christmas Carol Solo***, showing at the Eugene Garden Club, will not stick to the script.

Englishman and amateur thespian Thomas Hutchinson (pictured below, as played by Al LePage) will usher you into a world where history, story and improv commingle in a refreshingly interactive evening, with proceeds benefitting the Lane County Historical Society & Museum. As Hutchinson plays all the roles (and may even wax historical on Eugene Skinner, among other things), come prepared for tangents and corners of Dickens' tale you may not be all too familiar with. See Thursday, Dec. 20 Calendar.



The Man Show invades Diablo's Downtown Lounge, and this is news? Well, it is if you're being weighed down by the pressure to perform this holiday season (with the gifts and cheer, you pervs!) and need to let off some hearty guffaws. With comedians **Andy Andrist, Richard Bain** and **Kristine Lavine** rocking the mic with their Christmas cheerleading and **Kevin Kimmel** (pictured left) following in his father's boxer shorts as host, this is one hilarious holiday salve for your funny bones. See Thursday, Dec. 20 Calendar.



DAVID KRAPES

Eugene Weekly

Skopelos Island, Greece, and other photography by Annie Frantzeskos shows at the new Ratatouille Bistro-Café through Jan. 21



20
THURSDAY

Sunrise 7:44am; Sunset 4:36pm
Av High 45; Av Low 33

BENEFIT Jazz Station Holiday Party & Benefit Jazz Jam, feat. Gus Russell, Olem Alves, Chris Orsinger and many more, 7pm, The Jazz Station. \$10-\$50 sug. don.

COMEDY Christmas Comedy Showcase, feat. Richard Bain, Kevin Kimmel and Andy Andrist, 8pm, Diablo's Downtown Lounge. 21+. \$5.

DANCE Eugene Ballet Company presents *The Nutcracker*, 7pm today (recorded music); 8pm tomorrow & Dec. 22; 2:30pm Dec. 22 & 23, Hult Center. \$18-\$45; \$12-\$27 today only.

FOOD/DRINK Wine tasting: Warm, bold wines, 5pm-9pm, WineStyles. \$5.

GATHERINGS Democratic Party of Lane County meeting, 6:30pm, Council Chambers, 680 Greenwood St., Junction City. FREE.

KIDS / FAMILIES "Landscape painting" art clinic w/Kim Jarvis, for grades 1-5, 3pm, Springfield Library. Register at Youth Services Desk. FREE.

MUSIC The Memory Tones, 12:15pm, Hult Center lobby. FREE.

Third Thursday Minimal Techno Night, 8pm-11pm, Wandering Goat. FREE.

Devon Williams, 8pm, Cozmic Pizza. \$5.

David Jacobs-Strain, 9pm, Sam Bond's. \$7.

ON THE AIR

"The Jefferson Exchange" discusses the alchemy of chocolate, 9am & 9pm, KRVN 1280 AM.

"New Dimensions" discusses "Finding Courage When Your Life Turns Upside Down," w/Jan Yanehiro, 6:30pm, KLCC 89.7 FM.

"Merry Beatles, A Cool Yule w/the Fab Four," jazz musicians cover Beatles songs, 10pm-1am, KLCC 89.7 FM.

THEATER "A Celtic Holiday," feat. music by Linda Danielson & Chico Schwall and storytelling w/David Stuart Bull, 9:30pm today; 3pm tomorrow & Dec. 22, Café Soriah. 342-4410. \$10.

"A Christmas Carol Solo," 1856 Victorian-style w/Al LePage, proceeds benefit Lane County Historical Society, 7pm, Eugene Garden Club, 1645 High St. \$8.

21
FRIDAY

Sunrise 7:45am; Sunset 4:37pm
Av High 45; Av Low 33

DANCE Middle Eastern Dance Guild of Eugene, 9pm, Cozmic Pizza. \$5.

EBC's *The Nutcracker* continues. See Thursday, Dec. 20.

FOOD/DRINK Wine tasting: Patricia Green Cellars (pinot noir), 3pm-10pm today & tomorrow, Oregon Wine Warehouse. \$15+.

Wine tasting: Port and champagne, 5pm-7pm, The Broadway, 200 W Broadway. FREE.

Wine tasting: Yarra Ridge (Australia) wines, 4pm-6pm, WineStyles. FREE.

Wine tasting: German & Italian small vineyards, 6:30pm-8:30pm, Midtown Marketplace. FREE.

Vegan potluck & White Elephant gift exchange, 7pm, McNail-Riley House. 341-1690. Bring utensils & plates.

GATHERINGS Rally to Save Old Growth Trees from the W.O.P.R., noon-1:30pm at the new federal courthouse, 405 E. 8th; 2:30pm-3:30pm at BLM bldg., 2890 Chad Dr. FREE.

Individuating Humans open meeting, topic: one's own virgin birth, 7pm, EWEB. 726-6215. FREE.

Winter Solstice Goddess Celebration, song, dance, ritual & more, 7pm, WOW Hall. www.eugenewintersolstice.com or 463-0943. \$5-\$13, \$2 under age 15, FREE under 8.

MUSIC Wordless Guitar Solstice Celebration w/Brian Cutan, 5:30pm, Tsunami Books. FREE.

Hot Club of Eugene, 9:30pm, Sam Bond's. 21+. \$5.

ON THE AIR "The Jefferson Exchange" discusses the solstice w/Richard Moeschl, 9am & 9pm, KRVN 1280 AM.

SOCIAL DANCES Salsa dance, 9pm, Tango Center, 194 W. Broadway. \$5.

THEATER *A Christmas Carol*, Broadway musical version, 7:30pm today & tomorrow, Actors Cabaret. 683-4368. \$14-\$17, \$30.95-\$32.95 (dinner seating).

The Best Christmas Pagaent Ever, 7:30pm today & tomorrow; 2pm tomorrow, Actors Cabaret Youth Stage, 39 W. 10th Ave. 683-4368. \$11, \$8 under age 12.

"A Celtic Holiday" continues. See Thursday, Dec. 20.

22
SATURDAY

Sunrise 7:45am; Sunset 4:37pm
Av High 45; Av Low 33

BENEFIT Solstice Kundalini Yoga, benefit for FOOD for Lane County, 8:30am-noon, Yoga West, 3635 Hilyard. 344-8332. \$7-\$14.

DANCE EBC's *The Nutcracker* continues. See Thursday, Dec. 20.

FOOD/DRINK Saturday Samplers: Spiced & mulled wines, noon, Wine Styles. FREE.

OWW's wine tasting continues. See Friday.

GATHERINGS Saturday Market's Holiday Market, 10am-6pm, featuring hundreds of booths, international food court and performances by Invincible Vincent, 10:30am; Shades of Blue, 11:30am; Ken Silverman, 12:30pm; Sweet River, 1:45pm; Gus Russell Trio, 3:15pm; Dave's Not Here, 4:45pm. In the Holiday Hall: Glenn Falkenberg, noon; David Rogers, 2pm; Semisweet, 4pm, Lane County Fairgrounds. www.holiday-market.org FREE.

McCloskey, noon; Eagle Park Slim, 2pm; Brian Cutan, 4pm, Lane County Fairgrounds. www.holiday-market.org FREE.

Holiday Farmers' Market, 10am-6pm today & tomorrow, Lane County Fairgrounds. 431-4923. FREE.

Winter Solstice at Dorris Ranch, feat. lighting of yule log, short hike, ceremony, potluck, 4:30pm-6:30pm, Dorris Ranch, S. 2nd and Dorris St., Spfd. 736-4544. \$3 sug. don.

Miracle Lights Tour of Outdoor Holiday Decorations, 7:30pm today & tomorrow, departing from ShopKo, off Coburg Rd. Register, 688-0454. \$4, \$3 under age 12.

KIDS/FAMILIES Eugene Ballet Company presents "Nutcracker Tea," 12:30pm today & tomorrow, Studio at the Hult Center. 682-5000. \$20-\$25.

LITERARY ARTS Winter Solstice Nature Readings, bring your own writings & stories, or just come to listen, 6pm, Mount Pisgah Arboretum. \$5 sug. don.

MUSIC Atrium Amateur Hour: Eugene Highlander's Bagpipe Band, 2pm, Atrium, 10th & Olive. FREE.

TRIM presents a "Carols & Songs Across Cultures & Faiths" sing-along, 6:30pm, Eugene Hotel. 344-5693. FREE.

Improvised instrumental music by Sabrina Siegel & Jeff Kaiser, 8pm, DIVA. \$3-\$5.

Cabinessence, Celilo, 9:30pm, Sam Bond's. 21+. \$5.

Sonny & The Moonlighters, 10pm, Cozmic Pizza. \$3-\$5.

23
SUNDAY

OUTDOORS/RECREATION Obsidians trip: Odell overlook, snowshoe, 3 miles. See YMCA board for details/sign-up sheet.

SPIRITUAL Essene Gospel of Peace discussion group, noon, call 942-9898 for directions. FREE.

THEATER "A Celtic Holiday" continues. See Thursday, Dec. 20.

ACE's *A Christmas Carol* continues. See Friday.

The Best Christmas Pagaent Ever continues. See Friday.

23

SUNRISE 7:46am; SUNSET 4:38pm
AV HIGH 45; AV LOW 33

DANCE EBC's *The Nutcracker* continues. See Thursday, Dec. 20.

FILM Mr. Sean's Cartoon Club Winter Special, 12:45pm, Bijou Cinemas. \$4.

GATHERINGS Saturday Market's Holiday Market, 10am-6pm, featuring hundreds of booths, international food court and performances by Invincible Vincent, 10:30am; Shades of Blue, 11:30am; Ken Silverman, 12:30pm; Sweet River, 1:45pm; Gus Russell Trio, 3:15pm; Dave's Not Here, 4:45pm. In the Holiday Hall: Glenn Falkenberg, noon; David Rogers, 2pm; Semisweet, 4pm, Lane County Fairgrounds. www.holiday-market.org FREE.

KIDS/FAMILIES EBC's "Nutcracker Tea" continues. See Saturday.

MUSIC Eddie Bodine, 8pm, Cozmic Pizza. \$2.

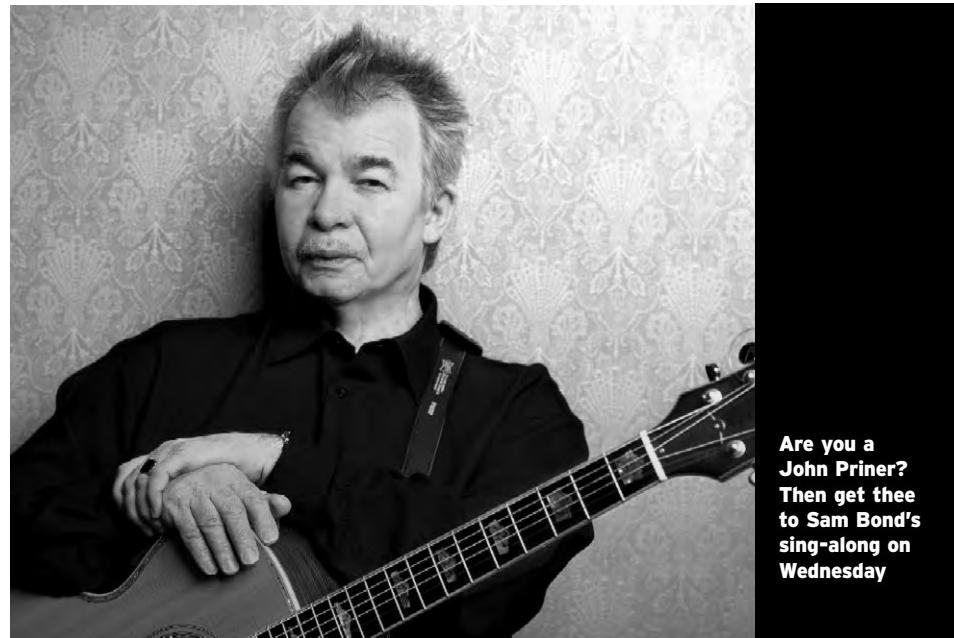
Ehren Ebbage, 8:30pm, Sam Bond's. 21+. \$3-\$5.

24

SUNRISE: 7:46am; SUNSET: 4:38pm
AV HIGH 45; AV LOW 33

GATHERINGS Saturday Market's Holiday Market, 10am-4pm, featuring hundreds of booths, international food court and performances by Sharon Rogers, 10:30am; The Rosen Sisters, 11:30am; Linda Danielson/Sharon Rogers/Chico Schwab, 12:30pm; Cigarbox Jerry & Ukulele Adams, 1:30pm; Americanistan, 3pm. In the Holiday Hall: Eagle Park Slim, noon; Karen Stingle, 2pm, Lane County Fairgrounds. www.holiday-market.org FREE.

ON THE AIR "The Jefferson Exchange" discusses rebuilding watersheds & forest environments



Are you a John Prine? Then get thee to Sam Bond's sing-along on Wednesday

Eddie Bodine brings his guitar artistry to Cozmic Pizza Sunday



CALENDAR

w/David Milarch, 9am & 9pm, KRCM 1280 AM.

SPIRITUAL Spiritual Growth Center's Christmas Eve candle-lighting & music program, 6pm, SGC, 390 Vernal St. 485-0035. FREE.

27

THURSDAY

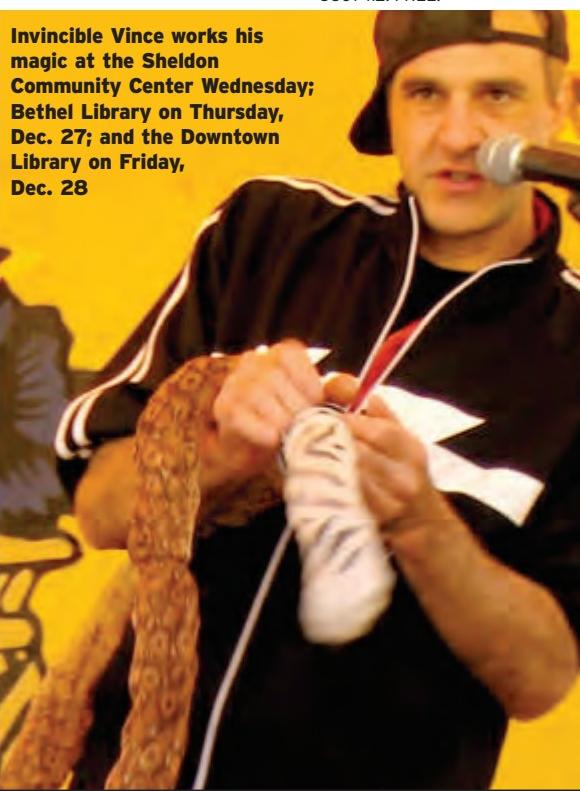
Sunrise 7:47am; Sunset 4:41pm
Av High 45; Av Low 32

FOOD/DRINK Wine tasting: sparkling wines, 5pm-9pm, WineStyles. \$5.

GATHERINGS Weapon of Choice: VOICE, open mic, 7pm, Morning Glory Café, 450 Willamette. FREE.

KIDS/FAMILIES The Reptile Man (Richard Ritchie) visits with

Invincible Vince works his magic at the Sheldon Community Center Wednesday; Bethel Library on Thursday, Dec. 27; and the Downtown Library on Friday, Dec. 28



TUESDAY

Sunrise 7:46am; Sunset 4:39pm

Av High 45; Av Low 33

ON THE AIR "The Jefferson Exchange" presents a special holiday program, 9am & 9pm, KRCM 1280 AM.

"Alternative Radio" presents Jeremy Scallil: "Blackwater: Mercenary Army," 6:30pm, KLCC 89.7 FM.

26

WEDNESDAY

Sunrise 7:47am; Sunset 4:40pm

Av High 45; Av Low 32

FILM Heckler's Movie Night: *Tango & Cash*, 7pm, Wandering Goat. FREE.

KIDS/FAMILIES Invincible Vince's Magic Show, 2pm today at Sheldon Community Center; 2pm tomorrow at Bethel Library; 2pm Dec. 28 at Downtown Library. FREE.

MUSIC John Prine sing-along, 9pm, Sam Bond's. 21+. \$3-\$5.

ON THE AIR "The Jefferson Exchange" discusses Slow Food movement w/Catarina Moore, 9am & 9pm, KRCM 1280 AM.

Grammy Noms for Symphony Members

'Tis the season for celebrating – the Grammy nominations, that is. Two of the Eugene Symphony's most excellent musicians scored nods this year for their assured playing and their creative mastery. In the rarely televised Best Chamber Music Performance category, the group Eighth Blackbird was nominated for *Strange Imaginary Animals*. ESO second flutist Molly Barth, who teaches at Willamette University in Salem and plays often in Portland, played with Eighth Blackbird on this CD. If you've attended symphony concerts this fall, you probably heard Barth's stunning work in Smetana's Moldau, among other places. The symphony's lucky to have her right now; she's a one-year replacement for second flutist Wendy Bamonte, who's on a leave of absence.

And symphony principal clarinetist Michael Anderson, who plays with the chamber music group Santa Fe Pro Musica, garnered notice for the group's recording of Mahler's demanding Das Lied von der Erde (along with the Smithsonian Chamber Players, under the direction of Kenneth Slowik). Last March, Anderson and bassoonist Steve Vacchi performed Richard Strauss Duet Concertino, and I've had the pleasure of hearing Anderson at various concerts in Beall Hall. "Michael and Molly are world-class musicians," says ESO horn player Lydia Van Dreef. Symphony executive director Paul Winberg adds his congrats, saying, "I'm really happy for both of them. Anytime you have players of that caliber in your ensemble, it raises the bar for everybody." Stay tuned: The Grammy Awards show takes place Feb 10, 2008. – Suzi Steffen

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Book Buddies book group (for grades 2-3): *Tippy Lemmey* by Patricia C. McKissack, 4pm, Downtown Library. 682-8316. FREE.

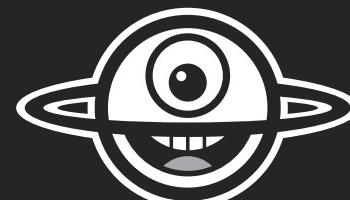
Tween Scene book group (for grades 4-6): *Shakespeare's Secret* by Elise Broach, 4pm, Downtown Library. 682-8316. FREE.

Invincible Vince's Magic Show continues. See Wednesday.

LECTURE "Freedom from the Food Fight," info. on food & body issues, Donna Stevens, 7pm-9pm, Unity of the Valley Church. 434-6607 x2. FREE.

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CALENDAR



Tango & Cash sandwich Lois Lane.
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CORVALLIS events

Note - Continuation dates for out-of-town events are listed under the first day of the event.

THURSDAY, DEC. 20 Procrastinator's Night Out, holiday gift show, 5:30pm-8pm, The ArtsCenter, 700 SW Madison. 754-1551. FREE.

FRIDAY, DEC. 21 Jubilate! women's choir winter concerts, 6pm & 8pm, Unitarian Universalist Church, 2945 NW Circle. FREE.

SATURDAY, DEC. 22 A Holiday Evening with soprano Janet Hackett and Friends, 7pm, First Congregational United Church of Christ. FREE.

MONDAY, DEC. 24 Celtic Christmas Eve, w/four course prix fixe meal, 5pm-8pm, Fireworks Restaurant. 754-6958.



Star Kissed and other work by Eric Petersen at White Lotus Gallery through Jan. 5

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CALENDAR

Christmas Caroling, 7pm, Whitespires Church, 510 5th Ave SW. FREE.

TUESDAY, DEC. 25
Holiday Dinner, 2pm, Corvallis Senior Center. RSVP, 766-6959. \$8.

ON THE road

THURSDAY, DEC. 20 Nick Jaina, The Builders & The Butchers, The Golden Bears, 9pm, Doug Fir Lounge, PDX. 21+, \$8.

FRIDAY, DEC. 21 Third Friday Céilí, feat. Eddie Parente, 8pm, PPAA Building, 618 SE Alder St., PDX. \$10, \$8 stu.

"A Soulful Christmas" w/Brian Culbertson, Gerald Albright, Howard Hewett, Nick Colionne and Victoria White, 8pm, Crystal Ballroom, PDX. www.asoulfulxmas.com

Stephen Malkmus & The Jicks, Blitzen Trapper, 9pm, Doug Fir Lounge, PDX. 21+, \$15.

Kevin Selfe & The Tornadoes, 9pm, The Landmark, Yachats. FREE.

SATURDAY, DEC. 22 One Horse Shy, 9pm, The Landmark, Yachats. FREE.

ATTN: OPPORTUNITIES

Lane County Board of Commissioners seeks community members to serve on the Community Health Council. Term is four years. Application deadline is Jan. 4.

The Embrace of Warmth blanket drive seeks donations. Drop off at Cozmic Pizza. hutchhaven@comcast.net or 541-915-0902.

McCornack Elementary 5th graders will pick up your used Christmas tree on Dec. 29-30 and Jan. 5-6 or 12-13. \$6 green trees, \$10 flocked trees. <http://schools.4j.lane.edu/mccornack> or 543-5510 to schedule pick-up.



Blitzen Trapper plays Doug Fir Lounge in Portland Friday. See On the Road listings

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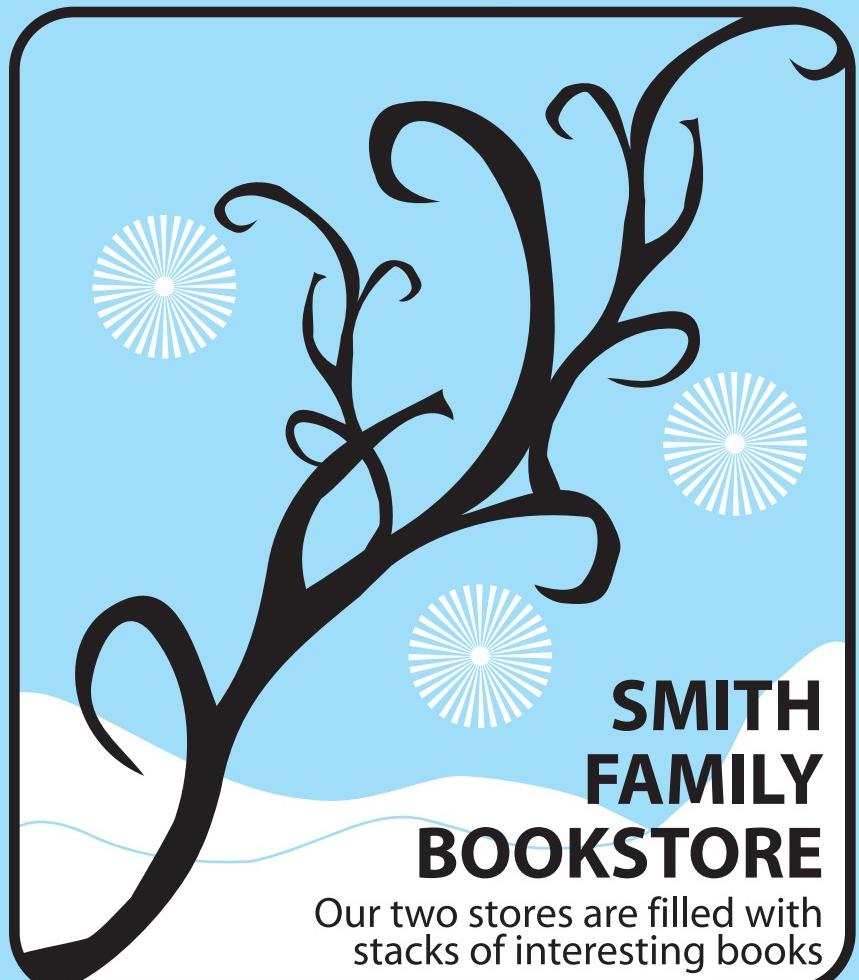
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art IN THE galleries

All exhibits free unless otherwise noted.

OPENING

Ratatouille Bistro-Café Photography by Annie Frantzeskos, through Jan. 21. 11am-2pm Tu-F; 5pm-9pm W-Sa; 10am-4pm Sa-Su. 1530 Willamette.

Territorial Vineyards & Wine Company

Paintings by James Dickey. Opening Dec. 21 runs through Jan. 21. Last Friday Artwalk Dec. 28, 3-8 pm. 907 West 3rd Ave.

CONTINUING

Art of Glass Fused glass art by Wes Shafer and fantasy surreal art by Ron LaFond, through Dec. 26. 9am-5:30pm Tu-F; 9am-6pm M. 790 Blair.

Backstreet Gallery Work by Sharon Stiles & other Florence artists, through Dec. 31. 11am-5pm W-Su. 327 Laurel St., Florence.

Bagel Sphere-Eugene Plein Aire Painters exhibit, through Dec. 31. 7am-6pm M-F, 8am-5pm Sa, 9am-4pm Su. 810 Willamette.

Bagel Sphere-Springfield Plein Aire Painters exhibit, through Dec. 31. 7am-6pm M-F, 8am-5pm Sa, 9am-4pm Su. 5768 Main St.

Better Yet "The Dream Tree," collaboration by Peter Herley & David Miller, through Dec. 27. Noon-6:30pm M-Sa. 782 Blair Blvd.

Blooming Branch Bistro "Reflections in Watercolor," work by Barbara Aten & Demetra Kalams, through Dec. 31. 7:30am-8pm Tu-Th; 7:30am-9pm F-Sa; 7:30am-3pm Su-M. 49 W. 29th St.

Blue Moon Jewelry Designs Jewelry work by Margarita O'Brien, through Dec. 31. 10am-6pm M-F, 10am-5pm Sa, noon-5pm Su. 115 W. 6th.

Café Soriah Fiber paintings by Sandra McMorris Johnson, through Jan. 15. 11am-2pm M-F, 5pm-10pm Su-Th, 5pm-11pm F-Sa. 384 W. 13th.

Diablo's Downtown Lounge Work by Skullduggie, through Dec. 31. 11am-2:30am M-F, 3pm-2:30am Sa-Su. 959 Pearl.

DIVA "Between the Shadow and Soul: Mystical Nature Photographs and Paintings" by Tricia Clark-McDowell, through Dec. 31. "Members' Miniatures," work by DIVA member artists; "Perspectives," work by Andreas & Jennifer Salzman; "The Silence of Light," work by R. Schofield; "MKAC Showcase," work by students of Bollons & Ross, through Dec. 22. Noon-5pm Tu-Sa. 110 W. Broadway.

Downtown Library Santa figurines exhibit, through Dec. 31. 10am-8pm M-Th; 10am-6pm F-Su. 100 W. 10th Ave.

Donald Dexter, DMD Cut paper display by Valisa Higman; watercolors by Carol Cabler, through Dec. 28. 8am-5pm M-F. 2233 Willamette, Bldg. B.

Emerald Art Center "Travels Through the Pacific Coast States," paintings by Renee Manford; plus work by member artists Carol Plaia, Sylvia Casillas and B.J. Burnett, through Dec. 29. "Fall Show '07" student exhibit, through Jan. 10. 11am-4pm Tu-Sa. 500 Main Street, Spfd.

Espresso PRN West Portrait photography by Claudia Kelley, through Feb. 10. PeaceHealth Medical Group annex, 1162 Willamette.

Espresso PRN East Pastel drawings by Mike Dudley, through Feb. 10. Sacred Heart Medical Center, 3rd floor, 1255 Hilyard St.

Fenario Gallery "Birthscapes," prints & paintings by Martina Hoffmann, through Dec. 31. Noon-6pm Tu-Sa. 881 Willamette St.

FireWorks Restaurant Pastels & oil paintings by Frances Stilwell, ongoing. 11:30am-2:30pm & 5pm-9:30pm M-Sa; 10am-2:30pm Su. 1115 SE 3rd (Hwy 99W), Corvallis.

Health Information Library, PeaceHealth Medical Group Annex Watercolors & pastels by Gladys Bacon, through Dec. 21. 9am-4:30pm M-Th; 9am-1pm F. 1202 Willamette.

The Horsehead Acrylic paintings by Sara Larson, through Dec. 31. 11:30am-2:30am daily. 99 W. Broadway St.

Imagine Wood furniture, jewelry boxes, game boards and pens by Urban Lumber, plus 20 other local artisans, through Dec. 31. 10am-7pm M-Sa; 10am-6pm Su. 296 E. 5th.

Island Park Art Gallery Prints by Susan Lowdermilk & Renee Manford, through Jan. 24. Willamalane Adult Activity Center, 215 W. C St., Spfd.

Jacobs Gallery "Four Visions: The Human Story," work by Germaine Bennett, Judith Nakhnikian, Janet Geib Pretti and Hoa-Lan Tran, through Jan. 5. Noon-4pm Tu-F; 11am-3pm Sa. Hult Center. 684-5635.

Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art "NewArt Northwest" exhibit, through Dec. 30. 11am-8pm W; 11am-5pm Th-Su. 1430 Johnson Ln., UO. \$5, \$3 stu. & sr., FREE UO stu., faculty, staff.

Karin Clarke Gallery Paintings by Adam Grosowsky & Christopher Bechler through Dec. 22. 10am-5:30pm Tu-Sa. 760 Willamette.

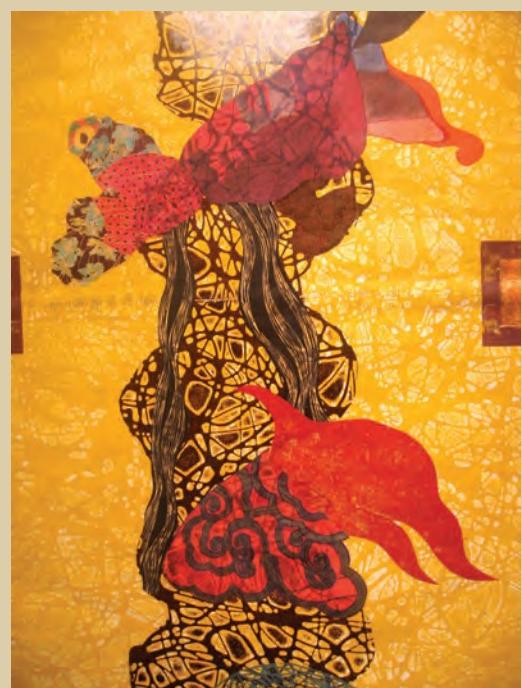
La Follette Gallery "Encaustics," paintings by Karen Ehlers & Jan Cavecche, through Dec. 31. 10am-6pm M-F, 10am-5pm Sa. 931 Oak.

Lane County Historical Society & Museum "Snoopy as the World War I Flying Ace" exhibit, through Jan. 19. 10am-4pm Tu-Sa. 740 W. 13th. \$3, \$2 sr., \$.75 youth.

LetterHead Sculptures by Betsy Wolfston, through Dec. 31. 10am-6pm M-F; 10am-5pm Sa; 11am-4pm Su. 25 E. 8th Ave.

Maude Kerns Art Center "Art for All Seasons," membership show; Club Mud Ceramics holiday sale, through Dec. 21. 10am-5pm M-F; noon-4pm Sa. 1910 E. 15th. \$3 sug. don.

Museum of Modern Malabon Art Rotating stu-



1:00 P.M.—Waking Life and other prints by Hoa-Lan Tran are on display at Jacobs Gallery through Jan. 5

dent artwork exhibit, ongoing. 8:15am-2:15pm M-F. Malabon Elementary School, 1380 Taney.

Museum of Natural & Cultural History "Rock Art: Ancient Images, New Views," works on paper by Allen Cox, through March 2. "The Flood Zone: Landscapes Sculpted by the Glacial Lake Missoula Floods," photography by Bill Woolston, through March 23. 11am-5pm W-Su. 1680 E. 15th. \$3, \$2 youths, sr.

New Zone Gallery Oil paintings by Will Klausmeier, through Dec. 31. W-Su noon-6pm. 164 W Broadway.

Opus6IX "Confronting the Canvas," paintings by Anne Teigen, through Jan. 13. 10am-6pm Tu-Th & Sa, 10am-8pm F, 11am-4pm Su. 22 W. 7th.

Planet Improvement Center "Bowled Over by Trash," sculpture by Tim Boyden, through Dec. 31. 8:30am-5pm M-Sa; 10am-5pm Su. 4446 Franklin Blvd., Glenwood.

Tactics Board Shop Snowboards designed by Network Charter School Students, ongoing. 11am-7pm M-Sa, noon-5pm Su. 375 W. 4th.

Tamarack Wellness Center Work by seven photographers, through Jan. 25. 9am-5:30pm M-F; 9:30am-noon Sa. 3575 Donald St.

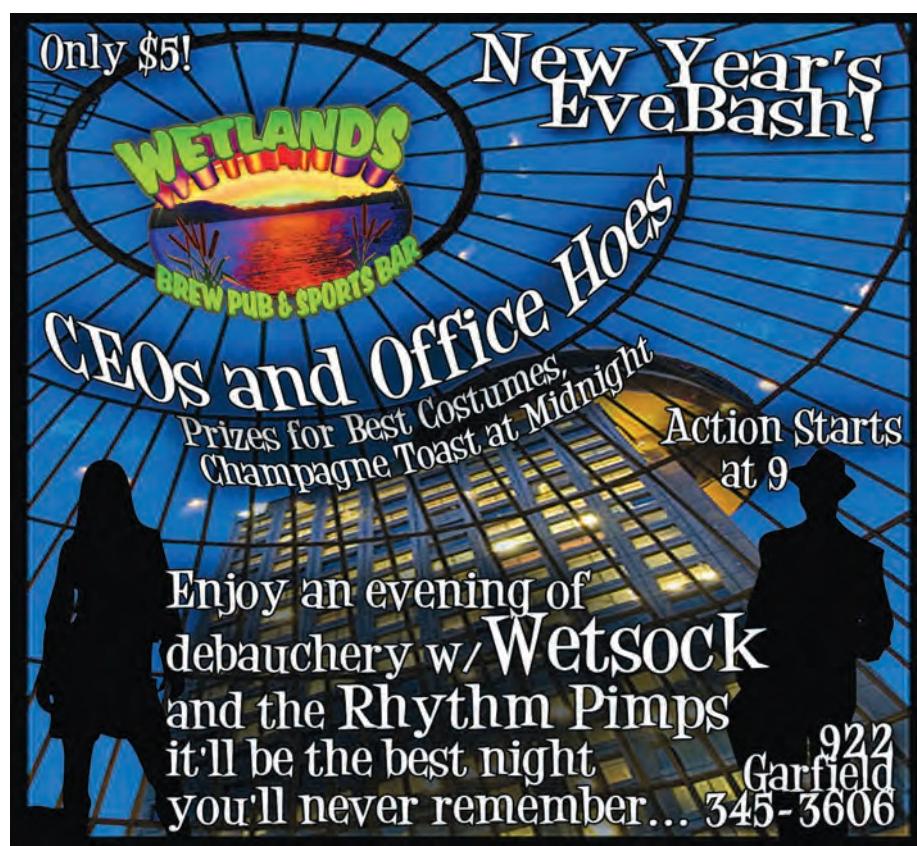
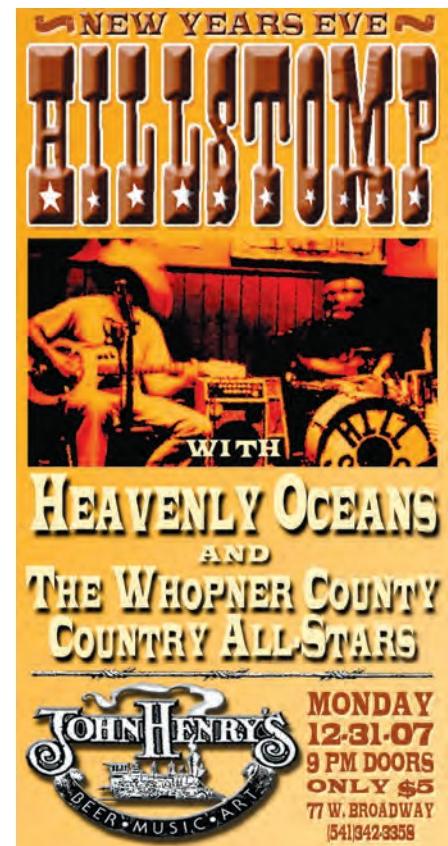
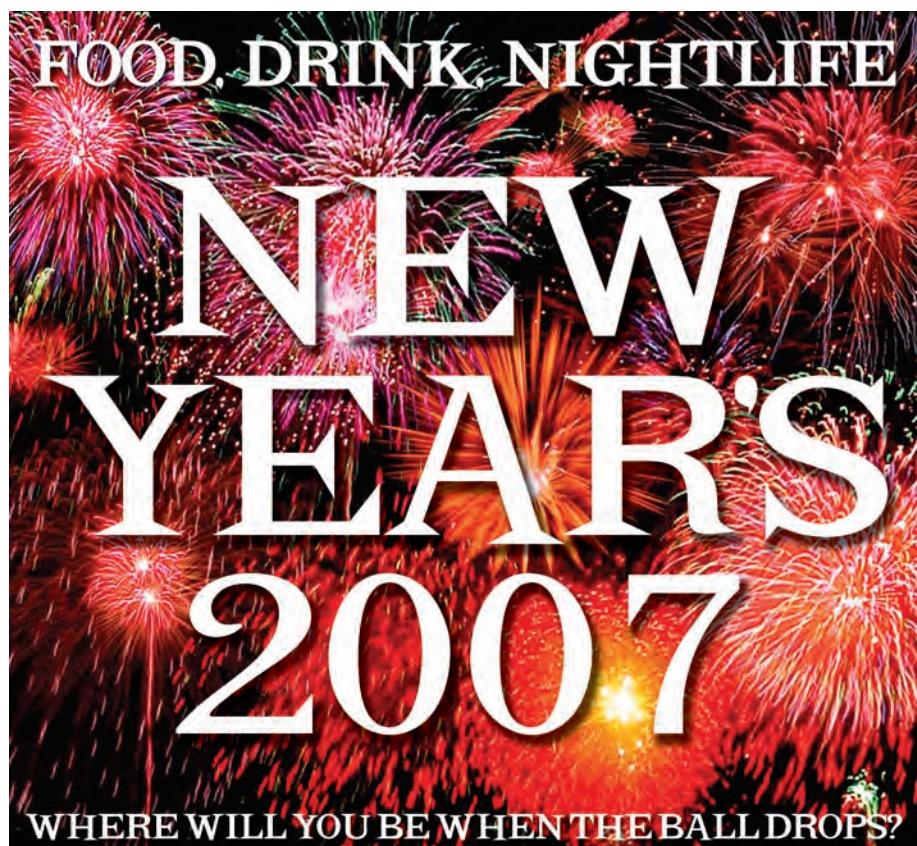
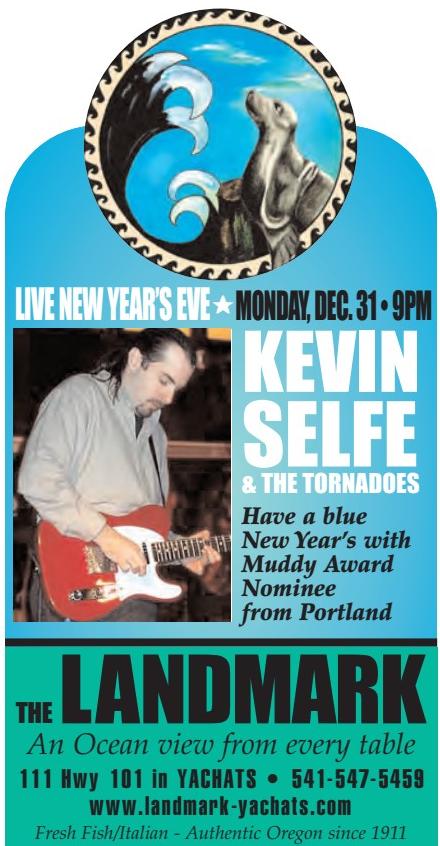
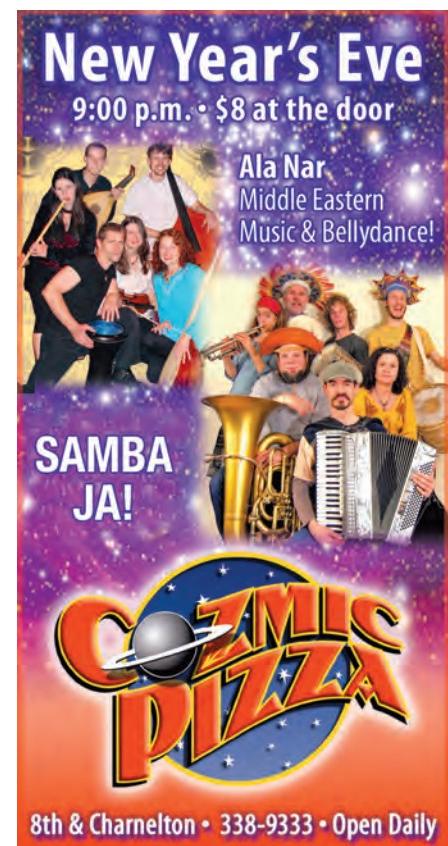
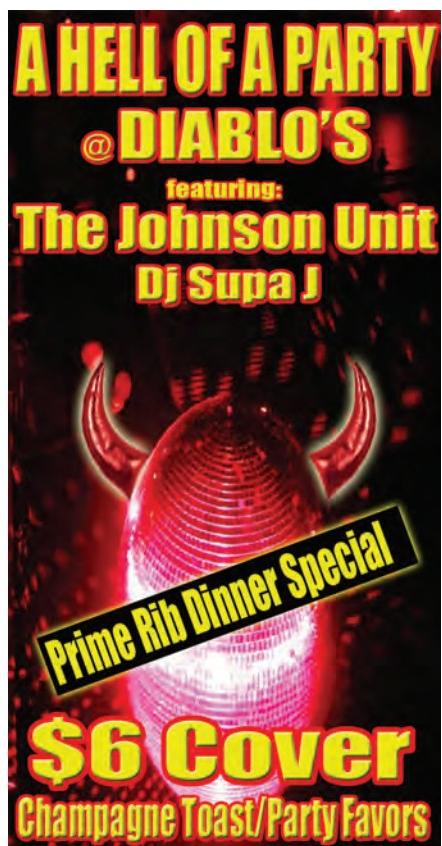
TEAL Art Collective Work by members artists, through Dec. 28. 10am-6pm M-Sa; noon-5pm Su. 240 SW Washington, Corvallis.

Wandering Goat "Cumulative Effect," abstract art by Amy Smith Garofano, through Dec. 28. 7am-11pm M-F, 9am-11pm Sa, 9am-9pm Su. 268 Madison.

White Lotus Gallery Work by Jon Jay Cruson, Mary Hindman, Eric Petersen, Nancy Pobanz and Tanaka Ryohei, through Jan. 5. 10am-5:30pm Tu-Sa. 767 Willamette.

WineStyles Work from the Bodies of Art women's art collective, through Dec. 31. 11am-6pm M; 11am-8pm Tu-W; 11am-9pm Th-Sa. 2846 Willamette.

WOW Hall Work by Steven Weeks, through Dec. 31. Noon-6pm M-F. WOW Hall, 291 W. 8th.



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5:05, 7:15 & 9:25 Nightly
Sun Mat 2:55 (12/24: 5:05 & 7:15) R

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"Inventive and very unusual account of the life
and times of Bob Dylan." Directed by Todd Haynes
Christian Bale Cate Blanchett

I'M NOT THERE
5:30 & 8:15 Nightly Sat & Sun Mat 2:30
(12/24: 5:30 only)

Next week: MARGOT AT THE WEDDING R

BIJOU LATENITE \$4 FRIDAY, SATURDAY & SUNDAY

In-Concert LateNight SEASON 3

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1974, Wembley Stadium London. Behold the band at their

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TO BE MISSED!

11:00 fri, sat & sun Sat Mat 3:05

Eagle vs Shark 11:35 fri, sat & sun Sat Mat 3:05

11:00 fri, sat & sun

11:



Singing 'Bout Luv

Messy but beautiful

ROMANCE AND CIGARETTES:

Written and directed by John Turturro. Executive producers, Joel and Ethan Coen. Starring Susan Sarandon, James Gandolfini, Kate Winslet, Steve Buscemi, Mary-Louise Parker, Christopher Walken, Mandy Moore and Aida Turturro. United Artists, 2007. R. 105 minutes. ★★★★☆

John Turturro's crazy quilt of a film has been lingering in distribution limbo for years, so don't be put off by the fact that you might not have heard much about this one recently. It's not perfect, and it's not for everyone, sure, but those with a taste for the slightly absurd will find plenty to be charmed by in this story of a working-class Queens family that appears to be imploding under the strain of Kitty's (Susan Sarandon) discovery of Nick's (James Gandolfini) infidelity. (His mistress, Tula, is played by a voluptuous, redhead, foul-mouthed and wonderful Kate Winslet.) But really, it seems like the Murder family must always have been in a state of implosion, what with three slightly kooky daughters — peculiar and kind Rosebud (Aida Turturro); Constance (Mary-Louise Parker), who is anything but constant; and Baby (Mandy

Moore), who's just too sweet — and a neighborhood full of oddballs, including Christopher Walken as the peculiar Cousin Bo (his car's name? Candide). To get their tumultuous feelings out, these folks all frequently burst into song.

But *Romance and Cigarettes* isn't a regular old musical; it's more like fantastical karaoke with the stars' voices layered over recognizable tunes. Sarandon belts out "Piece of My Heart" with a church choir led by Eddie Izzard (if that alone doesn't make you laugh, this might not be a film for you) and the daughters rock "I Want Candy." Characters' imaginations and fantasies come to life during musical numbers, but not always — though when they do, it's to good

effect. Turturro's talented cast is capable of handling the songs and his quirky dialogue (choice terms include "fuck bloomers" and "whoremaster") while gently communicating the complexities of family (and other) relationships with crooked eyebrows or half-smiles. While Kitty and Nick spend a good part of the film hurt and avoiding each other, their grounded, core relationship is steadily there, apparent in the turbulent connections between parents and children. Vivid, bawdy, surreal, *Romance and Cigarettes* is a little bit of a mess, but it's an audacious, entertaining and — of all things — touching mash-up of genres and styles. What a giddy break from the norm.

Romance and Cigarettes opens Friday, Dec. 21, at the Bijou.

Geek Love

EAGLE VS. SHARK: Written and directed by Taika Waititi. Music, The Phoenix Foundation. Starring Loren Horsley, Jermaine Clement, Craig Hall, Rachel House, Brian Sergent and Joel Tobeck. Miramax, 2007. R. 87 minutes. ★★★☆☆

There's something of the geek hit *Napoleon Dynamite* in Taika Waititi's *Eagle Vs. Shark*, a goofy tale of misfit love, awkward, frozen-in-adolescence boys and surviving in the "normal" world. But Waititi's film doesn't too energetically mimic the tone that put me off *Napoleon*: that sense that the director was laughing at, not with, his subjects. Still, there's a certain amount of skepticism directed at obsessive video game store clerk Jarrod (Jermaine Clement) and sweet, slightly vacant Lily (Loren Horsley), a jobless fast-food server who's in love with Jarrod simply because the mole on his lip is the mirror image of her own.

Many of *EVS*' cleverest moments come early, particularly at the "dress as your favorite animal" party from which the title comes. (Jarrod was going to dress as a shark, but then he realized an eagle was "slightly better.") Later, Jarrod's "hacker" friend (whose computer is infected with a porn virus), his sister and brother-in-law and their entrepreneurial schemes and his depressed father provide laughs when Jarrod and Lily travel to Jarrod's hometown so he can finalize his plans for revenge against a high school bully. There are sweet moments in this film, but most of them come from Lily's interactions with Jarrod's family; Jarrod himself is insufferable, a manchild whose thoughtless cruelty and self-importance made me wish Lily would come to her senses and DTMFA (as Dan Savage would put it; more politely, I wished she'd split). But Waititi is endlessly forgiving of his buffoon of a character, a trait which becomes more endearing every time the director lets a little magic creep into the film via charming animated sequences. This debut feature wobbles, but Waititi might be one to watch out for. *Eagle Vs. Shark* opens Friday as a LateNite feature at the Bijou. — Molly Templeton



movie CLIPS

OPENING OR RETURNING:

Across the Universe: Julie Taymor (*Titus*, Broadway's *The Lion King*) puts her ambitious but unsatisfying spin on a love story built around Beatles songs, following a young man (Jim Sturgess) and the girl he falls for (Evan Rachel Wood) amid the tumult of the 1960s. PG13. 131 min. Movies 12. ★★★★☆ (10/18)

Alien vs. Predator: Requiem: Honest to goodness, I didn't even know they were making another AVP until I saw an ad last week. Directors Colin and Greg Strause did visual effects work on *300*, which ought to be enough to get a certain audience into theaters to watch the nasty monsters fight. R. 86 min. Cinemark, opens 12/25.

Charlie Wilson's War: Mike Nichols directs from an Aaron Sorkin script this political ... drama? comedy? ... about a congressman (Tom Hanks) who combined forces with a CIA agent (Philip Seymour Hoffman) and a rich socialite (Julia Roberts) to direct a massive covert operation during the Cold War era. R. 97 min. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15.

Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young: A 1974 performance at London's Wembley Stadium depicts the band in front of a huge audience. Part of the In-Concert series. Bijou LateNite.

Eagle vs. Shark: "*Napoleon Dynamite* in New Zealand" is both too glib a description and not that far off for this overly quirky film about two peculiar characters who sort of fall in love — when one's not "training" to defeat his high school nemesis in single combat. Still, it's not without its charms. R. 87 min. Bijou LateNite.

Great Debaters, The: Denzel Washington (who also directs) stars in the (based-on-a-true) story of a debate coach in the segregated South who leads his Texas college team to a face-off with Harvard. PG13. 123 min. Cinemark, opens 12/25.

Mr. Sean's Cartoon Club: Crazy, weird and old Christmas cartoons. Prizes and surprises. 12:45 pm Dec. 22. Bijou. \$4.

National Treasure: Book of Secrets: Nicolas Cage returns for more adventure and hijinks — something to do with the president's secret book (hey, this sounds like *Crooked Little Vein*) and clearing his family's name; did great-great grandpa have something to do with Lincoln's assassination? With Helen Mirren. PG. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15.

P.S. I Love You: Holly (Hilary Swank) must go on without the love of her life, Gerry (Gerard Butler) when illness strikes. But for her 30th birthday, she gets a letter and a tape from Gerry, telling her how to make the most of her life. Sorry, have to end this there; I feel a bit queasy from all the sweetness. PG13. 126 min. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15.

Romance and Cigarettes: John Turturro's film finally breaks free from distribution limbo. The peculiar comedy-drama-musical mix gets messy at times, but a great cast (Susan Sarandon, Kate Winslet, James Gandolfini, Mary-Louise Parker), hysterical musical sequences and snappy dialogue make this bawdy working-class romance/heartbreak film a winner. R. 105 min. Bijou. **See review this issue.**

Sweeney Todd: Johnny Depp and Helena Bonham Carter (and Alan Rickman!) star in Tim Burton's take on the Broadway musical about a murderous barber who's sworn revenge for what happened to his wife and daughter. "Depp is simply stupendous," says *Rolling Stone*. R. 117 min. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15.

Tango and Cash: Have some good post-Christmas fun mocking Sylvester Stallone and Kurt Russell in this late '80s flick at Heckler's Movie Night, 7 pm Dec. 26, Wandering Goat Coffee Shop. Free.

Walk Hard: The Dewey Cox Story: While I'm all for both John C. Reilly and the sending up of *Walk the Line*, this satirical rock 'n' roll faux-biopic appears, from the trailers, to be trying too hard. But it's directed by Jake Kasdan, whose *The Zero Effect* was shamefully overlooked. Hrm. R. 96 min. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15.

Water Horse: Legend of the Deep: It's nice to see Ben Chaplin (*The Truth About Cats and Dogs*) again, even if it's in this too-cute-but-still-charming children's film about a boy who finds mysterious eggs that turns into a mythical creature. Directed by Jay Russell (*My Dog Skip*). PG. Cinemark, opens 12/25.

We Own the Night: Family and loyalty clash in James Gray's film, in which nightclub manager Bobby (Joaquin Phoenix) hides his relationship to a NYC cop family while also keeping a distance from the gangster who operates out of his club. With Mark Wahlberg, Eva Mendes and Robert Duvall. R. 105 min. Movies 12.

Films open the Friday following EW publication date unless otherwise noted. See archived reviews at www.eugeneweekly.com

CONTINUING:

Alvin and the Chipmunks: What's next? A live-action Care Bears movie starring Jason Lee? (He's in this and *Underdog*, for those not keeping track.) Those wacky little creatures with the high-pitched voices will surely cause him some trouble in this newest bit of family fare. With, um, David Cross. Now I'm confused. PG. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15.

American Gangster: Denzel Washington and Russell Crowe face off in the story of 1970s driver turned drug lord Frank Lucas (Washington) and the cop investigating Lucas and his unexpected rise to power. Directed by Ridley Scott. R. 157 min. Movies 12. ★★★★☆ (11/8)

August Rush: Keri Russell and Jonathan Rhys Meyers star as a musical young couple whose love story produces a child. Orphaned "by circumstance" (says the description), the boy (Freddie Highmore) grows up to become a musical prodigy. PG. 113 min. Cinemark (ends 12/24). VRC Stadium 15.

Bee Movie: Not much looks all that sweet about this animated comedy, in which Jerry Seinfeld voices a recent bee college graduate who learns, to his shock, that humans have been stealing bees' honey for ages and ages. With the voices of Renee Zellweger and Matthew Broderick. PG. 90 min. Movies 12.

Bourne Ultimatum, The: "I remember everything," says Matt Damon's Jason Bourne in this film's action-packed trailer. Director Paul Greengrass and the major players (Joan Allen, Julia Stiles) return to the series' satisfying third installment, which finds Bourne hunting down his past in stunning locations. PG13. 111 min. Movies 12. ★★★★☆ (8/9)

Dragon Wars: The good: Dragons! In L.A.! The bad: The plot is a convoluted thing about magical powers, resurrected lovers and a dragon that will be able to ascend into heaven. Also, the biggest names in the cast are Jason Behr (*Roswell*) and Robert Forster. But still ... dragons! In L.A. Can it be better than *Reign of Fire*? PG13. 90 min. Movies 12.

Enchanted: Beautiful princesses! Handsome princes! And ... midtown Manhattan? Amy Adams (*Junebug*), James Marsters (*X-Men*) and Patrick Dempsey (*Grey's Anatomy*) star in this fairy tale in the real world, which follows Princess Giselle (Adams) after a wicked banishes her from her magical kingdom. Why does this Disney flick look so charming? PG. 107 min. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15.

Golden Compass, The: An only slightly above average film — mostly on account of the fantastic casting — based on Philip Pullman's utterly brilliant novel. In a world much like our own, everyone has an animal companion who's part of themselves, and one little girl (newcomer Dakota Blue Richards) is the key to saving not just her own world, but countless others as well. With Daniel Craig, Nicole Kidman, Sam Elliott and Eva Green. PG13. 113 min. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15. ★★★★☆ (12/13)

Hitman: Timothy Olyphant, go back to *Deadwood*! No, kidding. Kidding. But honestly, I'm not sure this videogame-

based film about a professional assassin trying to find out who set him up (wait, does this remind anyone of Jason Bourne?) is the best place for you. R. 100 min. Movies 12. VRC Stadium 15.

I Am Legend: Will Smith does the all-by-his-lonesome thing in a New York City left not exactly empty after a manmade virus devastates the globe. During the day, he tries to find other survivors; at night, he tries to survive the creatures that are what's left of humanity. PG13. 100 min. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15. **See review this issue.**

I'm Not There: Portland filmmaker Todd Haynes' (*Far From Heaven*) unconventional Bob Dylan movie is one of the year's most anticipated — and, for the most part, highly praised. Different actors, including Cate Blanchett, Heath Ledger and Christian Bale, play incarnations of Dylan over the decades. "One of the most inventive and joyous movies of the year," said *Salon*. R. 135 min. Bijou. ★★★★★ (12/6)

Mr. Magorium's Wonder Emporium: This story about a magical toy store, its owner (Dustin Hoffman) and the young shop employee who might inherit it (Natalie Portman) is written and directed by Zach Helm, who also wrote last year's *Stranger Than Fiction*. G. 94 min. Movies 12.

No Country for Old Men: The latest from the Coen brothers is a near-masterpiece, an adaptation of Cormac McCarthy's acclaimed novel, and it's earning plenty of acclaim itself. The story involves a small-town sheriff, a deadly drug deal and a psychopathic killer (Javier Bardem). The reviewers say "intense," "searing," "an evil delight." R. 122 min. Cinemark (ends 12/24). VRC Stadium 15. ★★★★★ (11/29)

Resident Evil: Extinction: Alice (Milla Jovovich) is still trying to get rid of that pesky zombie-making virus. For this third film in the series, Alice gets new friends (we suspect they replace those zombified last time out) including *Heroes'* Ali Larter and singer Ashanti. R. 95 min. Movies 12. 3:10 to Yuma: Russell Crowe and Christian Bale costar in this solid Western from director James Mangold (*Walk the Line*). Based on a short story by Elmore Leonard that was made into a film in 1957, the film follows a vicious outlaw (Crowe) and the Civil War vet (Bale) who's volunteered to get the thief to the train that'll take him to trial. R. 117 min. Movies 12. ★★★★☆ (9/13)

Underdog: Jason Lee voices the titular canine, who finds himself superpowered after an incident in the lab of mad scientist Simon Barsinister (Peter Dinklage). Bad guys have plots, but Underdog has a spaniel to impress! Oh, and the day to save. PG. 84 min. Movies 12.

Bopping Around the Holiday Shrub

EW's music fiends on some of the year's best

Out with top 10 lists! In with ... something else. We're changing the format this year. *EW's* regular music contributors were asked to write a few words about three to five 2007 releases that they hadn't had an opportunity to write about over the course of the year, thus creating a list of cool stuff we didn't already tell you was cool. The resulting list looks like a wishlist: Dear bands, please come to Eugene next year! But we're offering it up as a shopping list instead. There probably isn't something here for everyone (for more options, check Brett Campbell's column on page 33), but we remain confident that every record on this list deserves a listen or two. Or three. Or maybe 12. Seriously.

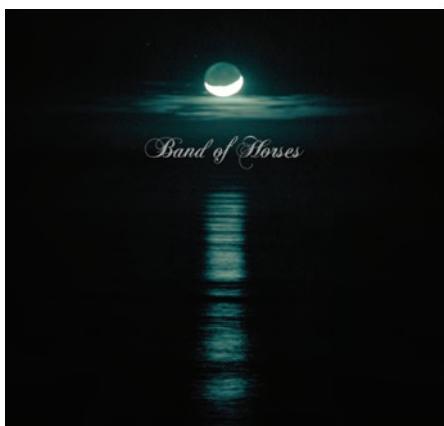
LILY ALLEN *Alright, Still* (Capitol)

I still wonder whether I would have loved Lily Allen as much if I hadn't first heard her while watching the video for "Smile," in which a saucy Lily gets revenge on a cheating boyfriend. I like to think, though, that her combination of infectious songwriting, attitude and heart would have made me fall for her *Alright, Still* regardless. Songs about her little brother being too stoned, her grandma being too old, boys being too stupid and London being, well, London? All with a perfect balance of brightness and bitching? Awesome. — MT



ARCADE FIRE *Neon Bible* (Merge)

If *Funeral* was their cry in the night, *Neon Bible* is Arcade Fire's awakening to a new dawn. Apocalypse has passed; the angels have risen. The demons are Biblethumping on street corners, and the band finds their footing in the dark spaces of anthemic salvation. Halfway through *Bible*, "Ocean of Noise" twists a chord of such crippling beauty, its plea is only hopeful to the overly optimistic: "This time we'll work it out." — CA



BAND OF HORSES *Cease to Begin* (Sub Pop)

As driving atmospheric guitars make room for the Carolina twang of Ben Bridwell's vocals, pushing "Cigarettes

Wedding Bands" to its zenith, it becomes clear why Band of Horses' *Cease to Begin* has shown up on Best of 2007 lists everywhere. Combining steady alt/rock with country-accented leanings, the gang doesn't travel far from last year's *Everything All the Time*. But I don't think anyone is too concerned when there's a single like "Is There a Ghost" out there. — ZK

Some reviewer questioned whether you'd have to be as stoned as Band of Horses sound to truly appreciate "Is There a Ghost," a song with an endless build and very few lyrics. The answer? No. Just close your eyes and let those eerie vocals carry you away, and float through the rest of the record as you would through a warm summer lake. Thoroughly buoyant, with a ripple of cold at the core, Band of Horses' second album is as irresistible as the first (though sure, that's partly 'cause they didn't tweak their winning formula much). — MT

DR. DOG *We All Belong* (Park the Van)

Listening to this Philadelphia fivesome is like finding that perfectly faded T-shirt at Goodwill on a lazy summer day. Their loose, lo-fi pop has all the familiar, raggedy charm of a secondhand shop without the thrift-store film left on your hands. Instead, they leave you humming their infectious Beach Boys-meet-the Muppet band hooks and harmonies for days. On their sophomore release, Dr. Dog sound like they're having the greatest time making music. And you'll have an even better time listening. — JO

Broken Social Scene presents KEVIN DREW *Spirit If...* (Arts & Crafts)

Kevin Drew has described his "solo" effort as a "What if?" album, where questions of potential are probed but not necessarily pushed to such incohesive splendor as on that last Broken Social Scene record. Less jammy with more tuneful, stronger vocals, *Spirit If...* sneaks under your fingernails and, on repeat listens, grows you a golden beard of fuzzy Canadian warmth. The sleeper track, "Bodhi Sappy Weekend," is quintessential Drew, with BSS backup all the way. — CA

FIELD MUSIC *Tones of Town* (Memphis Industries)

When a band makes a significant splash with its debut album, as Field Music did in 2005, the follow-up often drowns in comparisons. But the second record from this Sunderland, England, trio simply got lost at sea, which is a damn shame. *Tones of Town* is brimming with effortlessly smart and catchy moments, and, with a tip of the hat to herky-jerky early XTC, Field Music quietly made one of the best pop albums of the year. — JO

FIERY FURNACES *Window City* (Thrill Jockey)

The world of Matt and Eleanor Friedberger is like a play acted on a set designed by M.C. Escher. Albums span generations and continents, single vocalists carry on epic three-way conversations, characters appear as fresh, radiant hopefules and reappear moments later as aged, embittered malcontents. Like spoken-word dream sequences, the songs on *Window City* can at once be taken as literal and impressionistic experiences, encapsulating both the mind-boggling word play and layered musical minimalism that this brother-sister "garage rock" duo has made their signature sound. — AV

FREEWAY *Free at Last* (G-Unit/Roc-a-Fella/Def Jam)

On "It's Over," Freeway spits, "Things just ain't the same for gangstas but I don't give a fuck / I'm back without a Jus track." It's true Jus Blaze is a ghost on *Free at Last*, but Freeway doesn't care and neither should you. Free's street-worn rasp and cast of lesser-known producers power the soul samples and boisterous orchestral brass loops, making the album as catchy as a cold in winter. As DJ Khaled says — listennnn. — ZK



GRINDERMAN *Grinderman* (Anti-)

Nick Cave has always come across as the patron saint of dark impulses, and this brooding behemoth of an album is his official canonization. *Grinderman* is a snarling, sinister set of songs that gets back to the singer's damaged punk roots. With half of the Bad Seeds backing him, Cave gnashes his teeth on his favorite themes — love, death and violence — but this time it feels even dirtier and more disquieting than normal. This is rock and roll for your sinful side. — JO

EMILY HAINES AND THE SOFT SKELETON *Knives Don't Have Your Back* (Last Gang)

The crackly-voiced Haines is probably better known as the singer for Metric, whose wry, electro-rock *Live It Out* also got a lot of time in my CD player this year. But her solo album is something else: subdued, reflective, delicate and fragile. "I only wanted what everyone wanted since bras started burning up ribs in the '60s," Haines sings plaintively on "The Lottery," while on "The Maid Needs a Maid," she notes, dryly, "Bros before hos / Is a rule; read the guide-

lines." Her lyrics are often like a journal that's missing pages, emotional but obscured, evocative though you're not sure exactly what they're evoking, nostalgic but aware that nostalgia isn't getting anybody anywhere. — MT

HIGH ON FIRE *Death Is This Communion* (Relapse)

Harkening back to old school metal with great riffs and hooks, "Rumors of War" is one of the best pieces of thrash metal that's been recorded since the 1980s. High on Fire are the three horsemen of the apocalypse, and this CD provides the tribal-influenced soundtrack. — VS

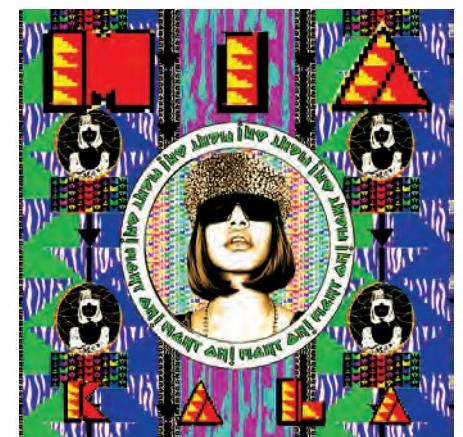


JESU *Conqueror* and *Lifeline* (Hydra Head)

The godfather of grind (Napalm Death) and industrial (Godflesh) has enough street cred to do anything he wants. He's chosen the path of crushing weight and sweeping beauty. — VS

LES SAVY FAV *Let's Stay Friends* (French Kiss)

Let's Stay Friends, the first all-new release in nearly six years from Brooklyn stalwarts Les Savy Fav, begins with the rather self-mocking lines, "There was a band / Called the Pots and Pans / They made this noise / That people couldn't stand." But this is music to fill a void for those of us who still love our late-'90s/early-aughts indie/postpunk/college/whatever rock: rich, raucous, jaunty, layered, danceable, angular, energetic, full of piercing guitar lines and the occasional bit of electro-pop. LSF hasn't messed much with what works for them, but they've managed to make it sound new all the same. "Back before Babylon, shit was cool," Harrington says accusingly on the mood-swinging "Patty Lee." But this shit still is cool. — MT



M.I.A. *Kala* (Interscope)

Like previous M.I.A. concoctions, *Kala* contains tracks that are at once jarring and appealing, catchy and off-putting, raw and sophisticated in the extreme. Every ounce an artist (visual as well as musical), this Sri Lankan globetrotter collaborated with producers all over the world (including golden boy Timbaland) to craft her art-hop, dance hall, politics-and-poetry infused mosaic of percussion and genius sampling. Maybe not love at first listen, but give yourself a chance to acquire a taste for M.I.A. and you won't be sorry. — AV

NEUROSIS *Given to the Rising* (Neurot)

The best from the Bay Area bonecrushers since 1999's *Times of Grace*. "Hidden Faces" and "Water Is Not Enough" may be the heaviest songs of the year. When Scott Kelly screams "Feeders seething, woe is them," I have no idea what the fuck he means, but I like it, and I want to sing along. — VS

OF MONTREAL *Hissing Fauna, Are You The Destroyer?* (Polyvinyl)

The year has been fraught with breakups galore. On all sides, formerly stable tenements (including my own) have collapsed of their own weight. Through it all, *Hissing Fauna* has been a primal scream, a salve, a way to simply cope. Upon hearing Kevin Barnes (who wrote the entire album) whine "I need help, c'mon mood shift shift back to good again," suddenly it feels as if breaking up is, dare I say, a creative boon. — CA

OM *Pilgrimage* (Southern Lord)

Continuing in the same musical direction as the last two Om CDs, this one has more dynamic variation yet retains the metaphysical lyrics and trance-inducing melodies. — VS

PETER BJORN AND JOHN *Writer's Block* (Almost Gold)

This release from Peter Morén, Björn Yttling and John Eriksson is a testament to the creative indie/rock constructions imported from overseas and introduced to this nation's scenesters. The first single, "Young Folks," is a modern pop duet that reflects the dealings of requited love between Morén and Victoria Bergsman while wrapped in subtle melancholic tones. Throughout the album, the simple lyrical assemblies become a perfect foil to the lo-fi and often up-beat instrumentation. — ZK

SHOUT OUT LOUDS *Our Ill Wills* (Merge)

When the Shout Out Louds missed their WOW Hall billing last October due to motor vehicle breakdown, we all missed out. The bad news is Sweden is a long way from Oregon. The good news is *Our Ill Wills* will keep us comforted through the dark, dreary winter (as any Scandinavian recording should). One sip of "Impossible"



and you're hooked. Sure, Adam Olenius' vocals sound like Robert Smith incarnate, but that's unfailingly a *good thing*, no? — CA

SPOON *Ga Ga Ga Ga Ga* (Merge)

Spoon frontman Britt Daniel may have sat on my sweater at a cocktail party in Portland last June, but that didn't influence my choosing them for this list. Spoon has been a workhorse throughout this year's tour circuit, appearing at literally every major festival, on every latenight talk show, in the pages of *The New Yorker* (and every other music rag). Luckily (for overexposure's sake), *Ga Ga* is one of their best yet. — CA

BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN *Magic* (Columbia)

While other songwriters of The Boss' generation threaten to sink into the shameful mire of "adult contemporary," albums like *Magic* can restore a music lover's faith in the greats. Catchy hits like "Radio Nowhere" remind us of why Springsteen has remained swoon-worthy since he first rolled up the sleeves of his white T-shirt in the '70s while jammin' ballads like "Last to Die" and "Long Walk Home" remind us why we should never turn our backs on an artist who has managed to capture the rock 'n' roll essence of American life successfully for decades while never neglecting the quiet agony that lies beneath. — AV

**ROCKY VOTOLATO** *The Brag and Cuss* (Barsuk)

The Brag and Cuss is the 2007 release from Rocky Votolato — who by all rights should be heir to the sorta-alt-country-but-sorta-not throne, were there such a thing — but I fell in love with his songs this year on account of something older: the title track from 2003's *Suicide Medicine*, an emotional throat-ripper of a song that really tore Votolato's throat out at a homecoming show in Seattle last April. It was raw and bare and stark and dark, and with it Votolato leapt into both my current rotation and my list of favorite singer-songwriters. This album, last year's *Makers*; just pick one — they're all worth a try. — MT

CD picks chosen and written by Chuck Adams, Zach Klassen, Jeremy Ohmes, Vanessa Salvia, Molly Templeton and Adrienne van der Valk

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Swift Reads

Cute, weird, funny gift books

You might think that after last week's Winter Reading issue, I'd be done with books for a while. But you'd be wrong: After a week spent reading novels that weren't published in 2007 (a Winter Reading requirement), here I am with more books! These, though, are a little different. These are the sort of books that don't lend themselves to straightforward reviews, exactly. They're the books you pick up and put down again, or flip through in all directions — backwards, forwards, sideways, upside down. Stories about words and latkes, rehab and sea cucumbers. In other words? They make really good presents.

For your word nerds, there's Katherine Baker's charmingly titled ***Six Words You Never Knew Had Something to Do With Pigs*** (Penguin, \$13). For the record, those words are porcelain, screw, soil, porpoise, root and swain. Organized by seasons and then by somewhat related categories (bridal words in the summer, for example), Baker's little book is endlessly entertaining — as is the very concept of ***Logorrhea: A Spellbinding Collection of Tales from Twenty-one of Today's Most Imaginative Storytellers*** (Bantam Dell, \$13). The gimmick? The writers — who include Elizabeth Hand, Portlander Jay Lake, Jeff VanderMeer and Michael Moorcock — each contribute "an original tale inspired by one of dozens of obscure and fascinating [spelling bee] championship words." "The Smaragdine Knot," anyone?

Does someone you know need a good laugh? There's the awesome ***I Am America (And So Can You!)*** from Stephen Colbert (Grand Central, \$26.99), which includes such gems as "Endangered Animals, and Why They Are Unloved By God" (in chart form) and "The Kraft Seven Seas Creamy Italian Sports Chapter." If Colbert is a bit too obvious, perhaps this gem from 2006 is in order: ***Lose Weight! Get Laid! Find God! The All-in-One Life Planner from Benrik*** (Plume, \$16). From "Age 0: Make Your Birth Unforgettable" through "Age 24: Waste This Year" and "Age 58: Turn Into Your Parents" all the way to "Age 100: Undergo Cryogenic Freezing," the duo that

goes by Benrik has helpful suggestions for every step of life. And worksheets, too. If that's too complicated, take the simple and hysterical tack: ***The Latke Who Couldn't Stop Screaming*** (McSweeney's, \$9.95) from the ever-brilliant Lemony Snicket, with screaming latke illustrations by Lisa Brown.



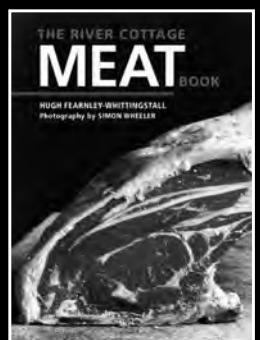
If getting through the holiday season drives your friends or family to drink, perhaps you know someone who might enjoy (deep breath; this title is long) ***Nobody Likes a Quitter (And Other Reasons to Avoid Rehab): The Loaded Life of an Outlaw Booze Writer*** by Dan Dunn (Thunder's Mouth Press, \$14.95). Dunn, who writes a column called "The Imbiber," peppers his book ("a mosh-up of fact and well-oiled flights of fancy," says the back cover) with factoids, an open letter to the chairman of Starbucks, footnotes, recipes and more. (But honestly, just the title had us in stitches.) For those who excuse themselves every 20 minutes to shiver outside with their nicotine sticks, perhaps ***These Things Aren't Gonna Smoke Themselves*** (Bloomsbury, \$12.95), Emily Flake's pocket-sized, illustrated love/hate letter to cigarettes. Anyone who's ever enjoyed something bad for their health should get a giggle from this little book — and that's all of us, right? Right?

Moving along, then. Two hefty tomes full o' quirk have been sitting on my floor (yes, floor) waiting to be perused at length: ***Take Me to Your Leader: Weird Facts, Bizarre Stories, and Life's Oddities*** and ***Do Not Open*** (both DK Publishing, \$25 and \$24.99 respectively). Ian Harrison's *Leader* sports a dog dressed as Yoda on the cover, which is frankly enough to convince me it's entertaining. Acts of god, conspiracy theories, national customs and foods, karaoke, dating ... there's a little bit of everything in this densely illustrated book, which is sort of like a book of facts crossed with everything on the magazine stand. I

think. It's rather hard to classify. John Fardon's ***Do Not Open*** — technically a children's book, but who's counting? — is a little more specific; it "blows the lid off the world's biggest secrets, conspiracy theories, obscurities and ambiguities." It also comes in a neat shiny box that makes it look like it's behind bars. *Do Not Open* is as dense with tidbits and pix as *Leader*, but it includes a lot of cartoonish little drawings, collages, a fold-out page, lift-the-flap pages and more, which might make it even better for those with short attention spans.

Alas, not all of my gift books can come in pairs, for I've got nothing to match up with Lorenz Schröter's ***The Little Book of the Sea*** (MacAdam Cage, \$15), which is like one of those Schott's Miscellany books, only blue, oceanic and less beautifully designed (but still full of all sorts of wonderful information, like a list of mistakes made in the film *Titanic*), or Daniel H. Wilson's ***Where's My Jetpack? A Guide to the Amazing Science Fiction Future That Never Arrived*** (Bloomsbury, \$14.95), a companion tome to the entertaining *How to Survive a Robot Uprising* (which, somewhat confusingly, is reportedly being made into a movie). And few things would properly pair with ***All Over Coffee*** (City Lights, \$24.95), Paul Madonna's beautiful collection of the titular comic strip, which runs in the *San Francisco Chronicle*. Short on words but long on feeling, these city scenes and lone-some visions seem to illustrate tiny moments of overhead conversation, imaginative daydreaming, chance encounters and brief visions. —Molly Templeton

COOKBOOKS are among the hardest thing to have pile up in my office, since they make me hungrier every time I look at them (which is often). Two of the year's densest, most fascinating tomes include ***Cooking***, a gargantuan work by James Peterson, and ***The River Cottage Meat Book*** by Hugh Fearnley Whittingstall (both from Ten Speed Press, each \$40). *Cooking*, which is subtitled *600 recipes, 1500 photographs, one kitchen education*, caught my eye largely because it illustrates everything. Sometimes, for newbie cooks, instructions can be dizzying: Do what to the what now? This patient volume will show you, using a series of tiny photographs, things like how to cut up a raw chicken, how to make straw mat potato pancakes and how to roll flaky dough. Beyond the specific bits, Peterson's book is impressively exhaustive. It would take months to get through the whole thing — making it a worthwhile kitchen investment for sure. *The River Cottage Meat Book* is similarly thorough about its somewhat more specific topic. This is a book that has distracted me at parties and made my mouth water at work. It's not just about the pretty pictures of delicious food, though; Fearnley-Whittingstall begins, "I believe that the way we produce and use meat requires radical reform." He wants carnivores to think about their meat consumption in philosophical and environmental ways — and he's concerned with how meat, once a person has decided to eat it, is cooked. This is a book both to read through and reference later.



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Not Too Late for Toys

A last-minute tour of Eugene's non-toxic toy options

Every mom knows the more money you spend on a present, the higher the chances are that the recipient will spend hours playing with the gift wrap and the box. Just as certain is the fact that the under-five set considers sticking toys in their mouths a normal part of their play routine. Luckily, Eugene's toy stores offer a plethora of safe non-toxic toys for kids who like to play with their gifts as well as the box they came in.

The Holiday Market offers one last chance to shop for procrastinating toy purchasers who want to buy local products direct from the artisans. From Dec. 22-24, you can choose from Sleeping Dog Puzzles, Softdough and Terrapin Toys, or you can juggle with Funstyx made from recycled rubber, among many other options, while you stroll the market listening to music and sampling local foods.

Heading downtown, Sweet Potato Pie offers little wooden sailboats that actually float, made locally by Mike's Woodworking, along with hemp clothing for the little ones. If that doesn't float your boat, wander one

door down to Eugene Toy and Hobby, where you can find wooden marionettes, cool American-made license plates for your bike and Eugene-produced geodesic dome toys. Alan Agerter, co-proprietor of the store, warns that these wooden and non-toxic toys have been selling out fast this year.

Over at Fifth Street Public Market (and also at Valley River Center for shoppers who choose to brave the mall) Elephant's Trunk is packed with toys for the cautious consumer. Robin Meyers is happy to pull

out a folder full of letters from each vendor the store buys from that attest to the safety of the toys. The store also maintains a list of which toys are not made in China for customers concerned with the recent lead paint issues with some Chinese-made toys.

Wooden toys are hot this year, the stores say, and the Green Guide (www.thegreen-guide.com) suggests going with any solid wood, as pressed woods like plywood and particle board are made with glues that can give off toxic fumes like formaldehyde. If you look at the edges of the toys, you can often see the layers of pressed wood, according to the Guide.

Continuing east on 5th Avenue you'll come to Bambini, where you can find wooden toys both local and imported. The

store sells Oregon-made wooden toys from Papa Don's, including colorful rattles that are made with lead-free paint and a food-grade oil finish. The store also sells wooden rattles made in Oregon by Earnest Efforts. All Earnest Efforts wood is from discarded sources, and no living trees are cut for their products. Earnest Efforts can also be found back at the Holiday Market.

Bambini and Elephant's Trunk both offer environmentally friendly Plan Toys from Thailand. Plan uses water-based non-toxic paints and the wood from rubber trees that would otherwise have been burned and made into charcoal. The company gets a good score from Ethical Consumer Research Association and makes everything from dolls to wooden cars.

Several local stores offer PVC- and phthalate-free LEGO toys (the word LEGO comes from the Danish phrase *leget godt*, meaning play well) and, for the older child, many board games offer safe play options.

For those who want to truly avoid consumerism for the holidays but still feel compelled to give, think about giving an otter or a penguin — on paper anyway. Defenders of Wildlife offers adoption packages from \$25 to \$100. For these and a few other consumptionless giving options, see below. — Camilla Mortensen



Bleeding At the Holidays

Giving for exceptionally good reasons

OK, I was going to write about Fun! Gifts! For! People! With! Chronic! Diseases! (like the fabulous aDorn bags for people with diabetes, pictured, available at www.adordesigns.com, or the super-fun "Groovy Patches" for insulin pump set sites, available at www.groovypatches.com), but in quick succession I met two fellow diabetics (one type I like me, one type II) who don't have health insurance.

And it didn't seem so much fun anymore. I mean, hey, for them and other people with chronic diseases, perhaps some gift cards for pharmacies? A membership to those associations dedicated to finding cures for chronic diseases? Or, um, how about a stem cell line? Those things aren't as bright as a Groovy Patch or a pink leopard skin for an insulin pump, but they do show your love.

Anyway. When I'm not bleeding from my glucose-tested fingers, I'm a bleeding-heart gift giver. Here are some last-minute happy liberal gifts that also make the recipient feel loved; just make sure you select the appropriate item for the appropriate person and donate in his or her name.



For the Soft Cuddly Environmentalists on your list, Defenders of Wildlife offers the Wildlife Adoption Center (www.wildlifeadoption.org). It's too late to get the cuddly stuffed animals (plus certificate of adoption) in time for Christmas Day, but it's never too late to try to help save penguins, wolves, sea otters, hummingbirds or any of those other charismatic macrofauna by simply joining and contributing to Dow.

For Former and Future Peace Corps Volunteers and Other Social Program Fans, there's Heifer International (www.heifer.org), from which you can buy animals for needy families around the world (you decide what kind of animals — a llama, a swarm of bees, goats, ducks, etc.). Or, if you feel (as some animal rights groups do) that this is "animal slave trade," it's easy to get gifts from the Women's Bean Project (www.womensbeanproject.com), Fruit Tree Planting Foundation (www.fptf.org) or Sustainable Harvest (www.sustainableharvest.org).

For Book Lovers, the American Library Association has a tremendous service for donating to the destroyed libraries of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita (the URL is a pain in the ass, so Google ALA Katrina to find the page). If you'd rather give

toward books or libraries closer to home, there's always SMART (Start Making a Reader Today; www.getsmartoregon.org). And the Springfield Library has a wishlist on Amazon (maybe you loathe Amazon, but let's suck it up just this once). Don't bleed on the books — just send 'em. — Suzi Steffen

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Last Call

Wine advice for the final days of 2007

Think you're a serious procrastinator? Really? Try this test: Four days 'til Christmas and you still haven't started your shopping (you there?). Should you grab your credit cards and run for the car? Choose one:

- A. OMIGAWDOUTTAMYWAY!
- B. Plenty of time, no worries.
- C. Christmas? Already?
- D. What was the question?
- E. Right after we remodel the kitchen.

If you answered with a frantic A, you're a novice-level procrastinator. Thanks for playing. More advanced procrasts choose B, knowing there's no need to rush. Those who choose C have a special relationship with time, haven't turned their clocks back, probably post last year's calendar on the fridge. D people are among the few who understand Einstein's theory of special relativity. Now E: This is the category of the procrastination prodigy, the Master Procrastinator, the Zen delay-er, she who color-codes the spice rack while the house is burning.

Procrastinators pay a price. By the time they shop, the stores' selections are a bit limited, to looters' rejects, and look like the free box at a yard sale. But lucky are procrasts who have a wine fiend on their list, whether said fiend is a drop-in relative or dearly beloved, 'cause there's still available a wide budget-range of wine-gear and, of course, wine.

Up to \$15

A nice wine tool: Wine-heads can never have too many corkscrews, and the gold standard in screws is French, Laguiole (La-yole), comes in price (and quality) ranges from affordable to silly. Sundance offers a Laguiole opener at \$15.95, in its own little wooden box, wood handle, coated augur, charming.

Wines: With weak dollar and soaring demand, wine prices have jumped in some categories, but we found stellar quality: Vietti Barbera d'Asti 2004 Tre Vigne, on sale at \$14.95; this dark beauty from northern Italy shines with food, all oaky/smoky/plummy complex, a steal

that'll make memories. Or: Ryan Dawe-Stotz, the wine-and-cheese maven at Marché Provisions, claims Domaine de Triennes 2001 St. Auguste is the "best \$15 wine on Earth." OK, then.

Up to \$25

An opener Grandma can use: After de-corking a centillion bottles of wine, I swear by the Screwpull pocket opener. The augur is coated, will slip through even the tightest synthetic cork. The augur is also extra long, grabs firmly the longest corks. Operation is smooth and quick.

Wines: Many fine wines can be had at this price point. Compelled to choose, I'd take Owen Roe 2005 Ex Umbris (\$22.95), a Yakima Valley syrah deep and rich in flavors of dark berries, cherries, woodsmoke, spice — super wine. Or: Brick House 2006 Gamay Noir Ribbon Ridge (\$25), light-bodied but juicy, bursting with pretty flavors.

Up to \$50

Gottahaveit: By consensus, the best wine glasses in the world are made by German Riedel. They design glasses for specific varieties, promising that shape makes all the difference in delivery of flavor. Skeptics, me included, have tested the claims and come away convinced. And Riedel just released the new glass for Oregon pinot noir, \$25/stem, mere \$44.95 a two-pack.

Wines: Half a C-note takes us to top-shelf vinos, tuxedo wines, and being unapologetic buy-local folks,

we'd buy Oregon pinots: Beaux Freres 2005 Willamette Valley (\$44) has drawn raves; any Ken Wright pinot noir; Chehalem 2005 Ribbon Ridge Ridgecrest (\$44) would be superb; any pinot noir from Owen Roe or Sineann; Broadley's 2005 Claudia's Choice.

If you MUST go down the Big Red Road, stay Northwest: Cadence 2004 Tapteil Vineyard from Washington's Red Mountain region; a Bordeaux-style blend, you get deep flavors, complexity, length of finish — jingle bells.

OK, grab this list, get off the recliner, shop! Or deal just one more hand of solitaire. — Lance Sparks

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Kitka: *The Rusalka Cycle: Songs Between the Worlds* (Diaphonica)

Overexposure to the usual sounds of this season — *Messiah*, *The Nutcracker*, the inescapable carols at the mall — has led me to associate the dark solstice with the music of this sublime Bay Area women's vocal ensemble, whose winter appearances at the WOW Hall and *Wintersongs* CD have enchanted so many of us. But this recording — a theatrical score featuring original music by Ukrainian performer/composer Mariana Sadovska — marks a major departure for the group, one that might appeal to pagans and postpunkers as much as Kitka's usual base of world music (especially Balkan and other Eastern European) and choral fans. The group went to Ukraine to research the story's juxtaposition of ancient folk myth and Chernobyl's environmental disaster; the intensely dramatic, sometimes dissonant music suits the dark subject perfectly. You can see the full theatrical production on stage in San Francisco on January 4-6.



Trio Mediaeval: *Folk Songs* (ECM)

More beautiful and unusual women's vocal music. Last month's transcendent performance of these Norwegian carols and folk tunes in a Portland cathedral only confirmed my belief that these three Scandinavian chanteuses top the list of the world's greatest singers. Augmented by a splendid folk percussionist, this outing allows the singers more freedom (various whoops and calls) than their previous medieval and postclassical efforts, and their characteristic sumptuous blend and immaculate ECM production make this the finest recording of pure, rapturous singing you'll hear this year.

Kim Kashkashian and Robert Levin: *Asturiana, Songs of Spain and Argentina* (ECM)

Oregon Bach Festival fans treasure scholar-pianist Levin for his engaging lectures and historically informed improvisatory approach to Mozart's piano music, so it's great to see another dimension of his artistry in these songs from Argentina and Spain by 20th century masters such as Manuel de Falla, Enrique Granados, Alberto Ginastera and less well known composers. The real star, though, is violist Kashkashian, who infuses the music with alluring warmth and intimacy.

Shahram and Hafez Nazeri: *The Passion of Rumi* (QuarterTone)

This Iranian father and son duo celebrate the 800th birthday of one of the world's most popular poets. For three decades, the elder Nazeri, an amazing singer, has been adapting traditional song forms to fit Rumi's words. His son Hafez, a star in his own right who's studied in the U.S., has created a strong hybrid of Eastern and Western musical techniques, and his Rumi Ensemble (featuring traditional Persian strings and percussion, with Hafez on the setar lute) provides stirring accompaniment.



Midnight Serenaders: *Magnolia*

Fans of the Emerald City Jazz Kings and the Shedd's other early jazz offerings will enjoy this Portland sextet's ebullient debut recording of 1920s and '30s hot jazz and swing, featuring material from Bessie Smith to Jimmy Rodgers and even the Hawaiian steel guitar and ukulele instrumentals that were all the rage for a spell around that time. They especially excel on the clarinet and trumpet-fueled Harlem tunes that set the flappers flouncing.

Girl Circus: *In the Pink* (www.girlcircus.com)

This continuing project (familiar to Country Fairies) spearheaded by Eugene's reigning musical couple, composer/trumpeter/guitarist Dave Bender and singer/diva/lyricist Darcy Du Ruz, is gleeful fun without being twee or cutesy pie. This third release in the series, featuring a baker's dozen of Eugene's most accomplished musicians on saxes and cello, maintains the effervescent energy, catchy tunes, clever lyrics and wildly varied musical influences (from Bulgarian to Caribbean to circus marches and everything in between) of its predecessors. Of course, hearing the music wrenched out of its hippie vaudeville context loses something, and sometimes the way-high soprano vocal harmonies can get a little grating and could use some variety, but for the most part, it's a delight.



Osvaldo Golijov: *Youth Without Youth* soundtrack (Deutsche Grammophon)

I haven't seen Francis Ford Coppolla's long awaited new movie, but if it's as evocative as the noirish mood music created for it by today's most fascinating composer, it'll be worth catching.

Habib Koite and Bamada: *Afrika* (Cumbancha)

One of the finest world music albums of the year, this long awaited release from the great Malian troubador blends folky acoustic guitars, occasional orchestration (including horns arranged by James Brown alum Pee Wee Ellis) and female chorus backup with pan-African and even Caribbean rhythms and instruments (balafon, Malian lute) into magnificent, state-of-the-art global pop.

Matt Haimovitz: *VinylCello; After Reading Shakespeare* (Oxingale)

Frequent Eugene visitor Haimovitz may be the most important voice in classical music. Not only is the shaggy-haired cellist getting it out of the stuffy concert halls and into clubs and bars, he's also commissioning and performing terrific new music and issuing it on his own pioneering label. His *Shakespeare* project features probing, often somber, sometimes anguished new works by leading contemporary composers Ned Rorem, Paul Moravec and Lewis Spratlan. *VinylCello* records the first fruits of his Buck the Concerto project, featuring concertos for Haimovitz and big band, choir, DJ and live electronics. Such variety means that not everything will appeal to every listener, but all of it demands to be heard.

Various artists, Playground series (Putumayo)

Thanks to its smart packaging and marketing as well as wide-ranging contacts among musicians and producers worldwide, Putumayo has introduced millions of middle Americans to world music, bringing some of the world's finest musicians to Western ears.



Purists sometimes blanch at this pioneering label's pop-oriented world music offerings, but almost every release contains worthwhile music and reflects today's wonderfully mongrelized musical culture, even if it often winds up as background sound for parties. Among its many releases this year, I especially liked *Tango Around the World* and *Latin Jazz*. But any of the entries in the 15-year-old label's Playground series for kids (e.g. *Brazilian Playground*, *Asian Dreamland*) would make a nice, ear-broadening introduction to other musical cultures, and would fit comfortably in most stockings.

For more recommendable CDs of 2007, see Brett Campbell's 8/30 (world music) and 7/5 (Oregon music) columns at www.eugeneweekly.com

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Winter Relief

Groove to the Moonlighters

If gloomy Northwest winter's got you down and you need help getting the spring back in your step, consider taking an evening to go back in time with a new band that is blasting, harmonizing and grooving its way into the Eugene scene: Sonny and the Moonlighters. Lead singer Sonny McNeillie says he got the idea to form the band when he started seriously listening to Motown last spring, revisiting songs from his past and finding inspiration in the soaring vocals, horns and infectious melodies.

"I was sick of being in a band that had a lot of guitars," McNeillie says. "All bands these days have a lot of guitars in them. I wanted to do something different,

something uplifting rather than negative."

True to the stereotype of musicians stepping out on their day jobs, McNeillie met two other bandmates while at work waiting tables. A few months of networking, word of mouth and trial and error later, the band had a cast of nine total members, including a full horn section. Despite their relative youth as a unit, McNeillie says the members have succeeded in finding common artistic ground.

"We do three or four part harmonies based on old do-wop, Motown and Beatles, who were very



Sonny and the Moonlighters

10 pm Saturday, 12/22
Cozmic Pizza • \$3-\$5

inspired by soul. The '60s is a time a lot of popular music came from, the more infectious, poppy stuff you hear. It was a very infectious time."

Although Sonny and the Moonlighters may sound reminiscent of many of your oldies station favorites, they sing original songs penned primarily by McNeillie and bandmate Dion. They also perform in full suits (à la The Four Tops), adding a little visual flair to an already highly stylized stage show that McNeillie is pleased to report has garnered tremendous popular support in a short amount of time.

"The first show we had, we had a huge crowd, and we've been playing lots of shows. I think it is because we are doing a popular style of music that is really traditional in America. Soul is based on blues and gospel. It's very inspiring."

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NIGHTLIFE



ROB TOBIAS & THE BLUESIDE PLAYS AXE & FIDDLE THURSDAY

THURSDAY DEC. 20

AXE & FIDDLE Rob Tobias & The Blueside-8; Blues
BLACK FOREST Sunday Straight Jacket, Tempercast-10; Metal
THE CITY DJ Simy-10; 80s, techno, reggae
THE COOLER Karaoke-9:30
COUNTRYSIDE Mr. Wizard-9
COZMIC PIZZA Devon Williams-8
DIABLO'S DJ Hot Teeth-10; 90s
DOWNTOWN LOUNGE Christmas Comedy Showcase w/Kevin Kimble, Andy Andrist, Richard Bain & Kristine Lavine-8. Redox, Duvallstar, Three Guys That Paint-10; Pop, punk
DUCK INN Ben Coleman's Karaoke-9
EARL'S JUKE JOINT Karaoke Contest-7
ELDORADO Karaoke-9
GOODFELLAS Johnny Wilde Jam-9:30
HAPPY HOURS Karaoke w/Jim-8:30
JAZZ STATION Local jazz showcase, feat. Gus Russell, Barbara Dzuro, Olem Alves, Byron Case & more-7
JOGGER'S DJ Tino-10; Hip hop, R&B, dancehall
JOHN HENRY'S 80s Night w/Chris, Jen and John-10
LATITUDE 21 Scottie One Drop's Reggae-Hip Hop-Funk Jam-10
LONE STAR Texas Hold'em-7
LUCKY'S 11th Floor, The Ploy-10; Indie

rock

MACENZI'S TOO Karaoke-7
MAC'S AT THE VET'S Open Mic-9
OAK ST. SPEAKEASY Jazz Jam w/The Richardson Trio-8
O'DONNELL'S DJs-B-Us: Tim-9
THE OLD PAD Karaoke-9
OVERTIME GRILL West Side Blues Jam-8
RED LION HOTEL Skip Jones & Byron Case-7
ROCK 'N' RODEO Ladies' Night w/Jon Michaels-8:30; Country, rock
SAM BOND'S David Jacobs-Strain-9; Roots, blues
SPIRITS Normal Bean's Jam Night-9
TAP 'N' KEG Rising Phoenix-9; Hip hop
TAYLOR'S DJ Red Fox-10; hip hop
TERRITORIAL WINERY Rick & Lavinia Ross-7; Folk, acoustic blues
VILLAGE GREEN Karaoke-7
WETLANDS Grateful Dead on DVD-10

FRIDAY DEC. 21

AXE & FIDDLE David Jacobs-Strain, Forest Resener-8:30; Roots, blues
BEANERY Gordon Kaswell-7
BLACK FOREST The Instant Quakers, Armonikos-10; Psychedelic, funk
THE CITY DJ Simy-10; Hip hop revolution, top 40
CLUB 420 Karaoke-9

THE COOLER

Spruce Roots Band-9
COUNTRYSIDE Forrest T Black-9
COZMIC PIZZA Middle Eastern Dance Guild of Eugene-9
DIABLO'S DJ Supa J-10; All-request
DOWNTOWN LOUNGE Debra Arlyn & Roots Down feat. Paul Wright, DJ Supa J-10; Pop, rock
ELDORADO Karaoke-9
FOUR CORNERS HOP HOUSE Random Blues Band feat. Gaye Lee Russell-9
GOODFELLA'S Mixed Blood-9
HAPPY HOURS The Alliance Band-9
INDIGO DISTRICT DJ Hoop Dreams-10; Hip hop, electro
JOGGER'S Club Motion w/DJ Ty-9:30; Hip hop, R&B & more
LAVELLES Gus Russell-5:30
LUCKY'S The Ineffектuals-10; Rock
MAC'S AT THE VET'S The Vipers w/Deb Cleveland-9:30; R&B, soul, blues
OAK ST. SPEAKEASY Olem Alves-6. Joe Mannis Trio-9
THE O BAR Karaoke-9
OK TAVERN Lorie's Karaoke-9
OREGON WINE WAREHOUSE David Rogers-7; World classical guitar
PEABODY'S PUB Karaoke-9
ROCK 'N' RODEO DJs Jon Michaels & Rob Reynolds-7:30; Country, rock, top 40
ROGUE BREWERY Mr. Bill's Trivia Show-8
SAM BOND'S Hot Club of Eugene-9:30; Jazz
SAM'S PLACE Karaoke-8
SAMURAI DUCK Severein, Monday with a Bullet, Side of Right-9; Metal
SPIRITS Normal Bean-9
TAYLOR'S DJ Prestine-10
TIME OUT Caught in the Act Karaoke-9
VILLAGE GREEN Rock-It-9; Classic rock
WORLD CAFE Jasper Mountain-9; Bluegrass, swing
WOW HALL Winter Solstice Goddess Celebration-7; Variety, ritual, drum circle

SATURDAY DEC. 22

AXE & FIDDLE Jasper Mountain, Brother Elmore-8; Bluegrass, swing
BEANERY Beth Miriam Rose-7; Acoustic folk
BLACK FOREST Ultraterrestrial, Volfonix-10; Grunge, psychedelic
THE CITY DJ Redd Fox-10; Top 40, hip hop, 80s/90s

CLUB 420

Karaoke-9
CLUB SNAFU Freaks Dance Party w/Audio Schizophrenic-9; Electro-mash
COUNTRYSIDE Forrest T Black-9
COZMIC PIZZA Sonny & The Moonlighters-10
DIABLO'S Vinyl DJs-10
DOWNTOWN LOUNGE DJ Supa J-10
DUCK INN Ben Coleman's Karaoke-9
ELDORADO Karaoke-9
GOODFELLA'S Mixed Blood-9
HAPPY HOURS Go 2 11-9; Rock
INDIGO DISTRICT DJ Hoop Dreams-10; Hip hop, electro
JOGGER'S Club Motion w/VJ Ty-9:30; Hip hop, R&B & more
JOHN HENRY'S The Baker's Ball-10; Local music showcase

THE KEG Disco dance-9

LAVELLES Gus Russell-5:30
LONE STAR Karaoke-9
LUCKY'S Elk Teeth, Speaker Rhodes, The Viking Funeral-10; Indie rock
MAC'S AT THE VET'S West Coast Rhythm Kings-9:30; Swing
MAIN ST. SPFD Texas Hold'em-8
OAK ST. SPEAKEASY Mike Denny-5:30; James Green-9
PAPA'S SOUL FOOD KITCHEN Brothers of Beat & Papa Soul-9; Old-school soul
PEABODY'S PUB Karaoke-9
QUACKERS The Valley Boys-9; Dance rock
THE RAVEN Random Blues Band feat. Gaye Lee Russell-9

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SAM'S PLACE Soulacious-8; Funk, R&B
SPIRITS Normal Bean-9
TAP 'N' KEG Rising Phoenix-9:30; Retro mix
TAYLOR'S DJ Simy-10; Hip hop
TOMMY'S B&G Karaoke-9
VILLAGE GREEN Rock-It-9; Classic rock
WINESTYLES Elizabeth Cable-7; Singer-songwriter

SUNDAY DEC. 23

BLACK FOREST Comedy Showcase-8
COUNTRY SIDE Karaoke w/Kim-9

COZMIC PIZZA Eddie Bodine-8
DOWNTOWN LOUNGE Karaoke-9
JOHN HENRY'S Broadway Revue (Xmas edition)-10; Burlesque
MAX'S Steve Ibach-8; Acoustic guitar
PEABODY'S PUB Open Mic-7
RODEO STEAKHOUSE Family Karaoke-5
SAM BOND'S Ehren Ebbage-8:30; Rock
VILLAGE GREEN Christopher Klein & Teresa Martindale-6:30

MONDAY DEC. 24

BLACK FOREST Karaoke-9
COUNTRY SIDE Karaoke w/Kim-9
DOWNTOWN LOUNGE Bingo-10

EARL'S JUKE JOINT Paul's Blues Jam-7
JOGGER'S Texas Hold'em-7
MCHANE'S Washer Pitching-10
ROCK 'N' RODEO Texas Hold'em-6:30
SAM BOND'S Bingo w/Tom Heinl & Scott K-9
SAMURAI DUCK Cinder Circus-10; Fire dancing
VILLAGE GREEN Eric Daquilanto-7; Soft alternative

TUESDAY DEC. 25

BLACK FOREST Roosters Blues Jam-8
COUNTRY SIDE Karaoke w/Kim-9
DOWNTOWN LOUNGE Bingo-8; Karaoke-10
EARL'S JUKE JOINT Everybody's Jam-7
GOODFELLA'S Karaoke-9
HIGHLANDS PUB Bingo-6
JAZZ STATION Spirit of Jazz Jam-8
JOGGERS Karaoke-9
LATITUDE 21 DJ Tekneek-10
MACHO'S PIZZA Family-friendly Karaoke-7
MAX'S e. geek's Knowledge Knights-7:30
MCHANE'S Tricycle Races-9
THE O BAR Karaoke-9
ROCK 'N' RODEO Texas Hold'em-6:30 iPod hip hop-9
SAM'S PLACE Open Turntables-8
TAYLOR'S Karaoke-9:30
VILLAGE GREEN Jay Schlotterbeck-7; Jazz
WETLANDS Texas Hold'em-6

WEDNESDAY DEC. 26

AXE & FIDDLE Bingo-7:30
BLACK FOREST Drixhen-10; Alt-rock
DOWNTOWN LOUNGE Blues Jam-8
EARL'S JUKE JOINT Acoustic jam w/Peter Giri

& Buster B. Jones-8
JOGGER'S DJ Tino-10; Hip hop, R&B, dancehall
JOHN HENRY'S DJ Kal El vs. DJ Tekneek-10; Reggae vs. hip hop
LONE STAR DJ Tony-9
LUCKY'S Grateful Dead Holiday Extravaganza feat. Jimmy Olesen Band & Friends-10; Covers
LUNA Jazz jam-9
MCHANE'S Dead-Spread-Phish-Head-10; Jam
MULLIGAN'S PUB Open mic-9
OAK ST. SPEAKEASY The Revolving Trio-8
PAPA'S SOUL FOOD KITCHEN Delta Blues Jam-9:30
QUACKERS Blues & Funk Jam-8:30
ROCK 'N' RODEO Karaoke w/Dan Henson-8
SAM BOND'S John Prine Sing-along-9
SAM'S PLACE Karaoke-8
TAP 'N' KEG Karaoke w/Rising Phoenix Productions-8
TAYLOR'S DJ Simy-10; Jazzy house, hip hop, disco
VILLAGE GREEN Olem Alves-7:30

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SA The Deep Woods Band-10

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Celilo Evokes Sense of Place, Purpose

The Portland band is "lost in obscurity" no more

Sloan Martin realizes that he and his bandmates in Celilo aren't creating any new genres, but they would like some acknowledgement that they've found their own sound. After frequent comparisons to Wilco, Ryan Adams, The Jayhawks and Neil Young, Martin says the 4-year-old band "would like to think there's *something* about our sound that's our own." He doesn't mind the comparisons, however. "Wilco's a great band," he says. Now, though, Celilo is ready to be judged on its own merits, with new material and renewed purpose.

"We've finally dialed our sound, and

people are just starting to take notice, and we've been lazy about promotion," Martin laments. The self-promotion has begun; Martin was quick to point out that "Christmas Cash," a tune from the 2007 release *The Man Who Owns The Sand*, was played on the Oregon Public Broadcast radio program "Eclecticity" the night before we talked. "We've been lost in obscurity, but we're gonna start to branch out."

Part of the problem for the laidback band is that age-old conundrum of listeners being unable to neatly pigeonhole Celilo's music. "You've got a full-on indie rock scene here,



Celilo (pictured), **Cabinessence**

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and then you have roots rock scenes, and it's a lonely world between them," he says, "and

we sort of straddle that."

Martin purposefully chose the name Celilo to evoke a sense of place and history. The Celilo Falls area in Oregon had been continuously occupied by native people for at least ten thousand years before 1957, when completion of the Dalles Dam flooded that section of the Columbia River and silenced the falls forever. The Chinook called Celilo *Wyam*, or "echo of falling water." Celilo Falls was the sixth largest by volume in the world, and the water's rumbling roar echoed for miles.

The double billing with Eugene's Cabinessence is not coincidence. Keyboardist Dave Pulliam shares his time between the two bands. "We got thrown on a bill with Cabinessence and realized we were kindred spirits," says Martin. "We have similar backgrounds. They're more poppy, and we've got a little more twang, but we cover a lot of interesting ground together."

EW

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Hope Over Fear

I love my dead gay forebears – and the living ones too



short fictions by JULIE ANNE PETERS

We were listening to Terry Gross' "Fresh Air" on NPR the other night when she said, "Coming up, we listen to an interview with Jane Rule, the author of a classic work of lesbian fiction. She recently died at age 76."

I've never read Rule's groundbreaking 1964 novel **Desert of the Heart** (Bella Books, \$12.95), but I did have two of her other books on my shelves. One was **This Is Not For You** (out of print), a 1970 book that epitomizes an unreliable narrator — in this case, Kate George, who spends the entire book in love with a possibly straight friend, never able to figure out how to bring love and sex together. That was depressing. So were some of the short stories I read in Rule's **Inland Passage** (out of print), but near the end of the book, things started looking up a bit. Whew.

In her interview with Gross (available on the Dec. 11 podcast at freshair.npr.org), Rule talks about how in the 1960s, she and her partner, both professors at the University of British Columbia, would be invited to dinner parties with two gay men "so that it would all look all right. ... You simply dealt in those terms in those days." And, as she notes in an online interview, "We were still, at that time in 1964, illegal. We could have been jailed for five years for living together." She came out anyway and became a lesbian icon in Canada. Rule died Nov. 27 of liver cancer. I plan on reading *Desert of the Heart* and some other Rule books over my winter break.

And then I saw a *New York Times* head-

line: "Allan Bérubé Is Dead at 61; Historian of Gays in Military." Bérubé's **Coming Out Under Fire: The History of Gay Men and Lesbians in World War II** (Free Press, \$19.95) should be required reading, really, for anyone who wonders about the history of people in love — or the unexpected ways WWII brought about a variety of civil rights movements. The story of how Bérubé came to write the book is fascinating: A friend brought him a box of letters rescued from a Dumpster. They were letters written among a group of gay soldiers during WWII; the men met at an Army base and kept in touch through the war years. Bérubé died on Dec. 11 of complications from stomach ulcers. *Coming Out* would be an excellent holiday gift for the historians on your list.

On the alive side, there's a new crop of young adult LGBT books — like **grl2grl** by Julie Anne Peters (Little, Brown, \$11.99), a book of short stories about lesbian and trans teens. The teens in the stories have tough lives and sometimes make choices that don't help them, but the opening story and the closing story contain a bit more hope. Author Ellen Wittlinger once told me that she thought it would be pretty tough to get a book of young adult LGBT-themed short stories published, so I'm glad Peters was able to blaze the trail.

Speaking of Wittlinger, her new book is **Parrotfish** (Simon & Schuster, \$16.99), the tale of Grady's first few months living as a boy after growing up as Angela.

Parrotfish is a perfect book for the winter holidays, for it revolves around Grady's Christmas-obsessed family and the ways family traditions can change. Not just family traditions but also religion can adapt and grow: Alex Sanchez's new **The God Box** (Simon & Schuster, \$16.99) deals head-on with the various passages in the Bible that some believe condemn same-sex relationships. I found the book a bit didactic at first, but by the end I read through tears of recognition as the main character learns to choose love over fear. As we mourn and honor Rule and Bérubé this season, may our holidays with our families (birth and chosen) be filled with that hope, love and joy.

EW

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Legal Notices

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LANE Department of Probate CASE # 50-07-25697 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS In the Matter of the ESTATE of Brian Fletcher Moats Deceased, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on November 15, 2007, Anna Wilczynska was appointed and deemed qualified to act as the personal representative of the above estate. All persons having claims against the estate are hereby required to present these claims, with proper vouchers, within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice, as stated below to the personal representative, at 2586 W. 28th Avenue, Eugene, OR 97405, or sent to the personal representative, in care of Phillip M. Williams, Attorney, 132 E. Broadway, Ste. 731, Eugene, OR 97401 (541) 484-9566, or they may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceeding in this estate may obtain additional information from the records of the attorney for the personal representative. DATED AND FIRST PUBLISHED: November 29, 2007.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LANE In the Matter of the ESTATE of ALINA STEVENSON, deceased. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on December 3, 2007, Raymond F. Stokes was appointed and deemed qualified to act as the personal representative of the above estate. All persons having claims against the estate are hereby required to present these claims, with proper vouchers, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, as stated below to the personal representative, at 2204 Lariat Dr, Eugene, OR 97401, or sent to the personal representative, in care of Richard Huhtani, Attorney, 142 W. 8th Ave, Eugene, OR 97401. (541) 465-9112, or they may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings in this estate may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the personal representative or the attorney for the personal representative. DATED AND FIRST PUBLISHED December 13, 2007.

tive, Barbara K. Bower, Barbara K. Bower, P.C., P.O. Box 688, Junction City, OR 97448. DATED and first published December 6, 2007. BARBARA K. BOWER, P.C., Attorney for Personal Representative.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LANE Department of Probate CASE#50-70-23974 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS In the Matter of the ESTATE of Brian Fletcher Moats Deceased, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on November 15, 2007, Anna Wilczynska was appointed and deemed qualified to act as the personal representative of the above estate. All persons having claims against the estate are hereby required to present these claims, with proper vouchers, within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice, as stated below to the personal representative, at 2586 W. 28th Avenue, Eugene, OR 97405, or sent to the personal representative, in care of Phillip M. Williams, Attorney, 132 E. Broadway, Ste. 731, Eugene, OR 97401 (541) 484-9566, or they may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceeding in this estate may obtain additional information from the records of the attorney for the personal representative. DATED AND FIRST PUBLISHED: November 29, 2007.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LANE Department of Probate CASE#50-70-23975 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS In the Matter of the ESTATE of David Joseph Moats Deceased, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on November 15, 2007, Anna Wilczynska was appointed and deemed qualified to act as the personal representative of the above estate. All persons having claims against the estate are hereby required to present these claims, with proper vouchers, within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice, as stated below to the personal representative, at 2586 W. 28th Avenue, Eugene, OR 97405, or sent to the personal representative, in care of Phillip M. Williams, Attorney, 132 E. Broadway, Ste. 731, Eugene, OR 97401 (541) 484-9566, or they may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceeding in this estate may obtain additional information from the records of the attorney for the personal representative. DATED AND FIRST PUBLISHED: November 29, 2007.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LANE, SUMMONS: B.J. JUSTICE, aka CHERYL HAINZ; aka CHERYL BA. HAINZ, Plaintiff, vs. SCOTT E. JUSTICE, SUMMER JUSTICE and BARBARA L. HAINZ aka BARBARA LYNN SULLIVAN; BRANDY ELAINE SMITH; TERRY HAINZ TRUST (T.L. Hainz and Teresa Sullivan Trustees); TERESA K. SULLIVAN; aka TERESA LORRAINE SULLIVAN; aka KATHRYN SULLIVAN; aka KATHRYN T. SULLIVAN; aka T. KATHRYN SULLIVAN; aka TERESA KATHRYN SULLIVAN; aka TRISH SULLIVAN; aka KATHRYN SULLIVAN; aka TERESA L. SULLIVAN aka TERRI HAINZ; aka TERESA MOORE; aka T.L. HAINZ; aka TERESA BLANY; and TERESA L. SULLIVAN; L. HAINZ, Trustee; BARBARA SMITH; TERESA SUMMERS; TERESA HALBERG; T. HAINZ; TERESA JOYNER; TERESA WERNER; TERRY SULLIVAN; L. HAINZ; ABANDON SHERRY JUSTICE; TERRY BLANEY; TERESA SULLIVAN; TERESA LORRAINE BLANEY; and SCOTT E. JUSTICE as Trustee for Kyle Justice and Chris Justice; and ALSO ALL OTHER PERSONS OR PARTIES UNKNOWN CLAIMING ANY RIGHT, TITLE, LIEN, OR INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN THE COMPLAINT HEREIN. Defendants. Case No. 16-06-25242 TO: The defendants and also all persons or parties unknown claiming any right, title, lien, or interest in the property described in the First Amended Complaint herein. IN THE NAME OF THE STATE OF OREGON: You are hereby required to appear and defend the First Amended Complaint filed against you in the above-entitled cause within 30 days from the date of first publication to this summons on you; and if you fail to appear and defend, the plaintiff will apply to the court for the relief demanded in the First Amended Complaint; NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: READ THESE PAPERS CAREFULLY. You must "appear" in this case or the other side will win automatically. To "appear" you must file with the court a legal paper called a "motion" or "answer." The "motion" or "answer" must be given to the court clerk or administrator within 30 days of the date of first publication specified herein along with the required filing fee. It must be in proper form and have proof of service on the plaintiff's attorney or, if the plaintiff does not have an attorney, proof of service on the plaintiff. If you have any questions, you should see an attorney immediately. If you need help in finding an attorney, you may call the Oregon State Bar's Lawyer Referral Service at (503) 684-3763 or toll free in Oregon at (800) 452-7636. SUMMARY STATEMENT OF THE LAWSUIT 1. This action is brought to quiet title in the plaintiff in certain parcel to real property located in Lane County, Oregon. The land at issue is

described as follows: 25959 and 25963 Hall Road, Junction City, OR 97448. Parcel XI: Beginning at a point in the center of Hall County Road No 423, South 89° 36' 20" East 1227.35 feet from the 1 inch iron rod marking the Southwest corner of Section 8, Township 16 South, Range 5 West of Willamette Meridian said point being referenced by a 5/8 inch iron rod North 0° 57' East 30.00 feet; thence leaving the center of said Hall County Road N 0° 57' E 466.83 feet to a point marked by a 5/8 inch iron rod; thence S 89° 36' 25" E 712.91 feet to a point marked by a 5/8 inch iron rod; thence S 0° 07' 25" E 466.84 feet to a point in the center of said Hall County Road, said point being referenced by a 5/8 inch iron rod North 0° 07' 25" West 30.00 feet; thence along the center of said County Road N 89° 36' 20" W 721.66 feet to the point of beginning, in Lane County, Oregon. Plaintiff prays for a judgment declaring her to be the owner in fee simple of the above listed property declaring that the defendants have no right, title or interest in the property. The date of first publication of this summons is: December 6, 2007. Dan Armstrong, OSB #88157, PO Box 546, 582 NW Van Buren, Corvallis, OR 97330 (541) 754-7477.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR LANE COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF GERTRUDE C. HIRT, Deceased. Case No: 50-07-25702 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS Notice is hereby given that Tyrrell Hirt Pierce, Robert M. Hirt and Martin W. Hirt have been appointed and have qualified as the Co-Personal Representatives of the estate. All persons having claims against the estate are hereby required to present the same, with proper vouchers, within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice, as stated below to the Personal Representative: At Tyrrell Hirt Pierce, Robert M. Hirt and Martin W. Hirt, c/o Thomas Evans, 750 Lawrence Street, Eugene, Oregon 97401, or they may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by these proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the Personal Representative, or the attorney for the Personal Representative. Dated and first published: December 13, 2007.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR LANE COUNTY, OREGON COMMUNITY CREDIT UNION, an Oregon Credit Union, Plaintiff, v. KIMBERLY M. TRACY, Defendant. Case No. 16-07-19762 SUMMONS TO: KIMBERLY M. TRACY IN THE NAME OF THE STATE OF OREGON: You are hereby required to appear and answer the Complaint filed against you in the above-entitled cause within thirty (30) days

from the date of service of this Summons upon you; and if you fail so to answer for want thereof, the Plaintiff will apply to the Court for the relief demanded therein. 1. ON PLAINTIFF'S FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF: 1.1 On Count I, for judgment in favor of Plaintiff and against Defendant in the sum of \$10,438.91, together with the sum of \$379.86, which represents unpaid contractual interest and late charges through and including August 24, 2007, together with interest on the principal sum of \$10,438.91, at the rate of 10% per annum from August 24, 2007, until paid, and reimbursement for Plaintiff's force-placed insurance on the Vehicle in the amount of \$1,609.00, together with Plaintiff's reasonable attorneys fees, costs and disbursements incurred herein. 1.2 On Count II: (a) For a decree declaring that Plaintiff has a duly perfected security interest in and to the above-described 1997 BMW 318i, VIN: WBACCO328VEK23380, and that said security interest is declared to be a valid and subsisting lien on the above-described property, superior in right to the claims of Defendant, and that Defendant be foreclosed of all interest in said Vehicle. (b) For judgment and decree that Plaintiff's security interest be foreclosed and that the 1997 BMW be sold by the Sheriff of Lane County, Oregon, in the manner provided by law, and that the proceeds of sale be applied as follows: (i) To the costs and expenses of sale; (ii) To the satisfaction of Plaintiff's costs and disbursements and judgment for Plaintiff's reasonable attorney fees; (iii) To the satisfaction of Plaintiff's judgment in the sum of \$10,438.91, together with the sum of \$379.86, which represents unpaid contractual interest and late charges through and including August 24, 2007, together with interest on the principal sum of \$10,438.91, at the rate of 10% per annum from August 24, 2007, until paid. 1.3 As and against Defendant, for an order requiring Defendant to immediately surrender possession of the collateral which is the subject of this action, to Plaintiff and for an order of replevin awarding possession to Plaintiff and directing the Sheriff of Lane County or the sheriff of the county in which the collateral is located to immediately locate and seize said collateral and return the same to Plaintiff. 2. ON PLAINTIFF'S SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF: 2.1 On Count I (Breach of Contract), for judgment in favor of Plaintiff and against Defendant in the sum of \$2,022.50, together with interest thereon at the rate of 9% per annum from May 17, 2007, until paid, together with Plaintiff's reasonable attorneys fees, costs and disbursements incurred herein; 2.2 On Count II (Fraud), for judgment in favor of Plaintiff and against Defendant in the sum of \$2,022.50, together with interest thereon at

the rate of 9% per annum from May 17, 2007, until paid, together with Plaintiff's reasonable attorneys fees, costs and disbursements incurred herein; 2.3 On Count III (Unjust Enrichment), for judgment in favor of Plaintiff and against Defendant in the sum of \$2,022.50, together with interest thereon at the rate of 9% per annum from May 17, 2007, until paid. NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: READ THESE PAPERS CAREFULLY! You must "appear" in this case or the other side will win automatically. To "appear" you must file with the Court a legal paper called a "motion" or "answer." The "motion" or "answer" must be given to the court clerk or administrator within thirty (30) days along with the required filing fee. It must be in proper form and have proof of service on the Plaintiff's attorney or, if the Plaintiff does not have an attorney, proof of service on the Plaintiff. If you have any questions, you should see an attorney immediately. If you need help in finding an attorney, you may call the Oregon State Bar's Lawyer Referral Service at (503) 684-3763 or toll-free in Oregon at (800) 452-7636. THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. Date of first publication: December 20, 2007. Date of last publication: January 10, 2008. Thomas M. Orr, OSB #88282 Hutchinson Cox Coons DuPriest Orr & Sherlock PC, 777 High Street, Suite 200, Eugene, OR 97401. (541) 686-9160.

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Volunteer Opportunities

CRISIS LINE VOLUNTEERS Needed at Sexual Assault Support Services. Help SASS create and maintain a calm, safe place for survivors to heal and take back their power. Training starts January 11. Call 484-9791 x306 for more information.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED for SARA's Treasures thrift shop & cat adoption center. Your fun, rewarding 5 hour shift per week will help us save lives! www.saratotreasures.org. 871 River Road, Eugene (541) 607-8892.

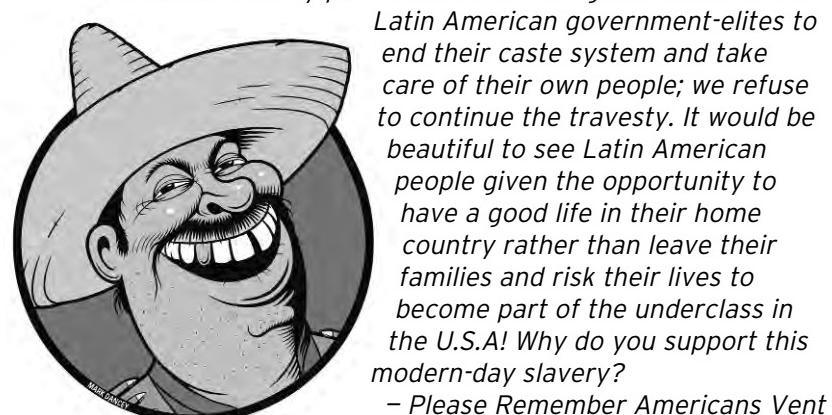
Career Training

WRITERS WANTED The Academy for Alternative Journalism, established by papers like this one to promote diversity in the alternative press, seeks talented journalists and students (college seniors and up) for a paid summer writing program at Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism. The eight-week program (June 22 - August 17, 2008) aims to recruit talented candidates from diverse backgrounds and train them in alt-weekly style feature writing. Ten participants will be chosen and paid \$3,000 plus housing and travel allowances. For information and an application visit ajj.aan.org. You may also email us at altacademy@northwestern.edu. Applications must be postmarked by February 8, 2008. Northwestern University is an equal opportunity educator and employer.(AAN CAN)

iASK A MEXICAN!

BY GUSTAVO ARELLANO

Dear Mexican: U.S.A citizens are sick and tired that for more than 40 years, Latin American elites have lived like monarchs because they pimp their poor to American businesses for cheap labor that American taxpayers have been forced to subsidize with health care, food, housing, education, and so forth costing taxpayers trillions of dollars annually. Meanwhile, our infrastructure, education and health care systems have deteriorated because our government spent our tax dollars supporting Latin America's poor citizens. It's way past the time for our government to tell



Latin American government-elites to end their caste system and take care of their own people; we refuse to continue the travesty. It would be beautiful to see Latin American people given the opportunity to have a good life in their home country rather than leave their families and risk their lives to become part of the underclass in the U.S.A! Why do you support this modern-day slavery?

— Please Remember Americans Vent Damn Always

Dear PRAVDA: Chingao, where to begin? Let's start with labels—this is ¡Ask a Mexican!, not ¡Ask a Latin American! Questioners: por favor remember this small detail; if you send me questions about Latinos, I'll forward them to Carlos Mencia so he can duh-duh-duh them to death. Next up are your lies. For one, even the Federation for American Immigration Reform, one of the preeminent Know Nothing think tanks and an organization predisposed to project worst-case scenarios, estimates "the annual net cost of illegal immigrants (after subtracting their tax payments) to the American taxpayer is likely to be more than \$45 billion"—a lot of dinero, but hardly the trillions you claim. And Latin American elites have lived like monarchs since...well, forever—that's why they're elites, silly! Ever heard of the Monroe Doctrine? Read up on it, and spare me your interventionist pendejas. Drop the class-warrior rhetoric—you sound like a Chicano Studies major, except whinier and with less logic. Finally, your slavery question begs la pregunta: is our present peculiar institution, as insane as it is for both sides, slavery? Not in the Mexican's book: illegals have free will to leave this country (except in a couple of cases; visit ciw-online.org for more details about true tragedies in the fields) but don't due to America's unquenched thirst for higher profits and cheaper costs—and if this smacks of Marxist driv-el, then I suggest you tune in to Lou Dobbs tonight for more of it.

While at an art gallery, a female friend seemed to shrivel at the sight of people sipping wine in huge glasses. She leaned over and whispered, "I am so out of my Mexican comfort zone." Is she just crazy or is there some logic behind her statement? Please enlighten us. — Brownie Bourgie

Dear Wab: What's with the whiners this week? I've heard your amiga's line muchos times from assimilated Mexicans in different situations—university classrooms, workplace, new neighborhoods—and my response is always the same: get over yourselves. Yes, Mexicans are going places we've rarely visited in a non-janitorial situation, but that's a cause for celebration, not brown guilt. Stride with pride, o pioneers! If you don't feel comfortable surrounded by gabachos, leave or smuggle in a couple of cousins to get the fiesta started. And if it makes your friend feel any better, Brown Bourgie, those gabachos that freaked her out so probably also hyperventilated at the thought of a non-peon wab in their midst.

Love your wit and witticisms! If I weren't already engaged to a muy guapo mexicano, I'd tell you "iLlamame pa'tras!" How is it that you always manage to one-up your readers? — iLlamame!

Dear Call Me: I get the last word. Plus, daily doses of Chocomil.

Gustavo Arellano is an investigative reporter on staff at the OC Weekly in Orange County, California. His "Ask a Mexican!" column began in 2004 and today is syndicated in 32 publications nationwide. He is also the author of a book by the same name. An extensive interview with Arellano can be found in the EW archives online for Nov. 29, 2007. Arellano can be contacted at TheMexican@AskAMexican.net

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"Town Wot?"

-you are now entering/leaving...

Across

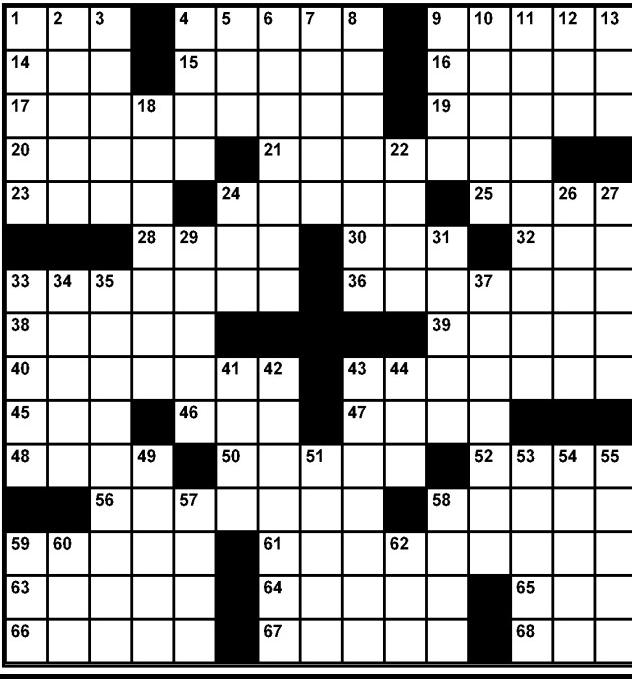
1 Word from Scrooge
4 Atkins Diet concern
9 "60 Minutes" name
14 Roosevelt or Eisenhower
15 Sequestered
16 Make happy
17 Solitary type in Nevada?
19 Ecological Seuss character, with "The"
20 "Eating ____" (1982 black comedy)
21 Colorful gastro-pod
23 ____ were
24 "It's pretty obvious, isn't it?"
25 Cooked
28 ____ cell research
30 Brownback who withdrew from the 2008 election
32 "Bop ____" (Parliament song)
33 Likes a lot
36 Times itself
38 See 46-across

39 Like ladies' men
40 Fills the tank
43 Anticipate
45 Article in "El Mundo"?

46 With 38-across, food drive beneficiaries
47 1/63,360th of a mile
48 Drink sometimes referred to as "nihonshu"
50 On drugs
52 Multicolored gemstone
56 They take bows
58 Drew Carey figure
59 Test section, often
61 Easy pickup in Oklahoma?
63 Head lock?
64 It's said coming and going
65 Bill dispenser
66 Dasher's teammate
67 Ninja Turtle home
68 Charge from a 65-across

Down

1 Yogi who mis-speaks a lot
2 Neighborhoods
3 It was the capital of French Indochina
4 Prediction
5 Where mil. letters are delivered
6 Illegal demands
7 Make babies
8 "The Waltz King"
9 Word yelled on the stock market floor
10 Fun way to read
11 Tennis star relocated to North Dakota?
12 It looks like an H, in Greek
13 T. ____
18 Magazine for active people
22 Heat center, familiarly
24 Word before a maiden name
26 ____ Latino (hip cuisine)
27 Orson Scott Card protagonist
29 Secret meeting



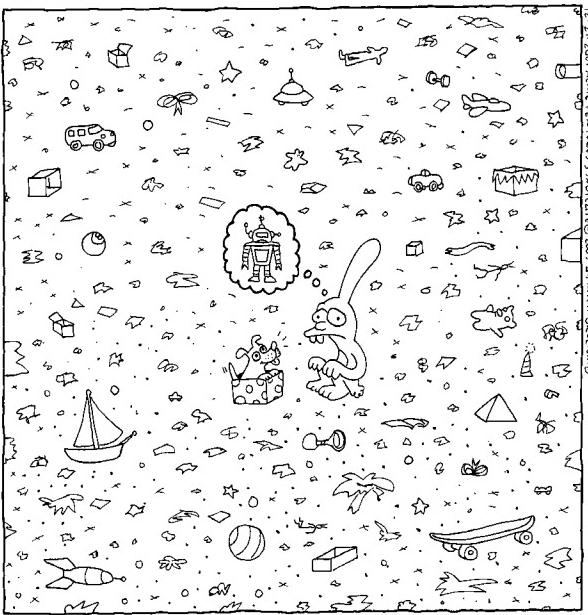
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For answers to this puzzle, call: 1-900-226-2800, 99 cents per minute. Must be 18+. Or to bill to your credit card, call: 1-800-655-6548. Reference puzzle #0338.

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V	A	S	T	L	I	O	T	T	A	B	B
O	R	A	L	I	N	P	A	R	T	R	E
C	O	N	C	E	T	E	D	F	O	R	A
A	N	A	Z	E	L	D	A	L	O	L	A
B	I	D	I	C	O	O	K	E	R	K	I
I	L	E	D	F	R	A	N	O	N	E	O
R	I	L	O	L	V	O	B	N	O	E	O
D	O	M	A	D	E	F	R	D	S	F	R
T	H	I	N	G	E	R	E	S	T	E	S
E	U	R	O	P	A	S	T	A	L	T	O
E	O	N	S	R	E	A	P	E	F	E	T
E	N	S	T	B	R	E	W	E	N	N	E
66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77

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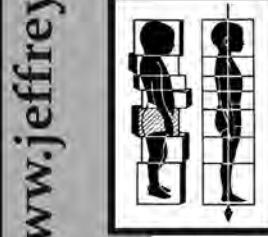
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	2		7				6
	4		2		3		8
1				6		9	
		5					3
	6			8			1
		7			4		9

Place numbers 1-9 so that each row, column and 3x3 square has each number only once.
There is only one solution. Visit www.sudokuplace.com for a puzzle solver.
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RED MEAT

the rapturous rubric of redaction

from the secret files of
MAX CANNON

O Dear Lord...help us all to remember the true meaning of this holiday season.

Okay. It all began about 10,000 years ago when I instituted the "great blood feast of Xjulgha." Too messy, though.

Then I changed it to the "festival of Snta Kluahz, the many-tentacled bringer of gifts and confections."

That name sounds like "Santa Claus."

Exactly. But, you know...with tentacles.

2-BDRM. 851 W. 5th. Quiet, clean, private patio. New carpet and vinyl. Upstairs. \$500/mo, deposits. NP. 729-5827.

Homes for Rent

CHARMING 2 BDRM approx. 900 sq. ft. Hardwood floors. No smoking, no dogs. \$750/mo, 108 1/2 Holeman, off River Road. 520-1578.

Shared Housing

ROOMMATES.COM. Browse hundreds of online listings with photos and maps. Find your roommate with a click of the mouse! Visit: www.Roommates.com. (AAN CAN)

LARGE ROOM, in the woods. Private bathroom; large and well-equipped kitchen; 3,000-book library, swimming pool, gym, cable tv, wireless Internet, fireplace, washer and dryer, dishwasher, a/c, workshop. On bus lines/bike paths to the UO and to downtown. \$450/mo + utilities. Call Matteo 543-0525.

FRIENDLY HOUSEMATES Wanted Large house in forested SW hills, vegetarian friendly, garden, community room, smoke-free, 20-min bike to UO. 345-0359.

SHORT TERM, quiet, clean smoke-free home. \$95/wk. includes satellite TV, hi-speed (wireless) Internet, W/D and all utils. 515-2445.

WOMEN TO SHARE retreat like home. Horses ok. Beautiful 53 acres. 2 rooms avail. 10 min to Eugene. NS/NP \$350/mo. 514-6357.

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Chevrolet

CHEVY SUBURBAN '90. Only 117K mi. 4-spd. Excellent work truck. \$850. Call 344-4201/964-5621

Dodge

1999 DODGE Grand Caravan SE. 143,000 miles, power windows, power locks, power mirrors, cruise... The blue book for this van lists at \$5000.00 IN excellent and \$4590.00 in good condition. Please call 541.337.5251

Geo

1995 GEO METRO 5-speed manual, 140,000 miles, 40-45 MPG, no body damage, runs and starts great, new tires. In Cottage Grove, call Ken at (541) 942-9826.

Volkswagen

1984 VOLKSWAGEN RABBIT Diesel L. \$2,750/obo. 186,000 miles, runs great! 5 speed, sunroof, maroon, 4 door hatchback. Call Josh 228-0077.

Greenhill * Pet of the Week *

Everybody deserves a good home



Ollie is a handsome one and half year old Pit Bull mix who longs to be a gentleman, but needs an etiquette instructor. Don't let his size fool you, he is very friendly with people and loves to be loved on. The only problem is that this 75 pound cuddler wants to be a lap dog! Ollie knows how to sit and does well on a leash. Typical of his breed, he gets very excited during play and may not be suitable for a family with small children. Ollie is a powerful, athletic boy

with a high prey drive, so his new family should have no cats or small animals. All members of the family (human and canine) will be required to meet him prior to adoption. And, to help Ollie learn the sophistication appropriate for such a handsome boy, we will request that his new family consult with a trainer once he goes home. (This will be included in cost of Ollie's adoption, which is \$97.) If you are interested in Ollie, we will also provide you with some information on Pit Bulls and prey drive. Greenhill Humane Society is located at 88530 Green Hill Road, Eugene OR, 97401. Hours are Friday through Tuesday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

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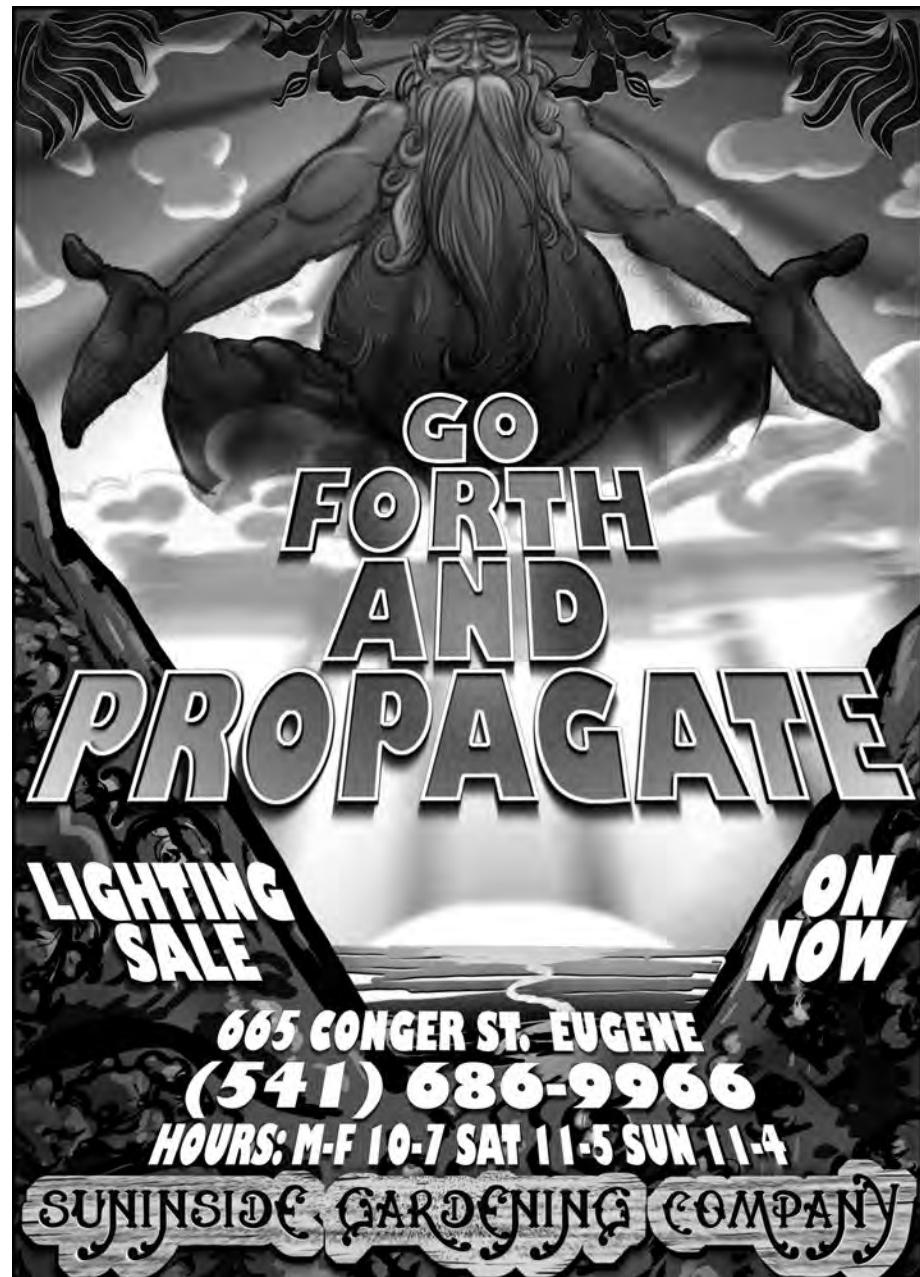
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FUN TRAVEL ROMANCE

I am looking for a man who lives in Eugene/Sprfda area, for a relationship filled with laughter, passion, energy. Someone that has the time & money to join me in foreign travel a few times a year. 50-60ish. NS ND. Write blind box "Fun, Travel"

LIKE OUTDOORS

I am a SWF, over 40, looking for a guy who wants to hike, talk, dance, go to coast, try surfing if there's time, go out to eat. ☎ 2483

ALL SYSTEMS GO!

You: Mostly happy. Mostly healthy. Mostly trim. Completely employed. Totally fun, energetic and active. Enjoy traveling. Live in Eugene/Springfield area. Age 49 1/2 to 60 3/4 (or something close) NS/ND. Me: ditto. Write to blind box "ditto". ☎ 2452

5'10" BUSTYBOMBSHEL

Where's Big Daddy? Well dressed, Attractive, Tall, Long Blondhaired, Green Eyed, Intelligent-10. Seeking 30-45, tall, financially secure. I love being pampered & like to please! So where is my SUGAR DADDY? ☎ 2452

MUTINY NEEDED

Nicer girl, UofO, needs compassionate guy. SWF-concerts, coffee breaks. Am small, light haired, finishing classes in cognitive psych. above board and looking for a non-smoking guy 25-39. ☎ 2441

HELLO OUT THERE!

I am looking for a genuine, authentic, honest, employed man in his 50's. I can always spend time with me, but I would rather spend time with you. Drop me a line. Tell me about yourself. A photo would be nice. NS ND Write to blind box "Hello" ☎



GIRL FRIEND WANTED

Dirty old farm boy 44, needs to sow my wild oats so you better lock up your daughter or there is going to be a shot gun wedding. ND ND Write

GODDESS WANTED

WM Seeking slim sensual spiritual goddess. We enter spiritual-erotic connection. I feel your Goddess energy, honor & worship you. Tender hands massage you, talented lips & tongue to devour you, everywhere. ☎ 2486

SALSA PARTNER

I'm looking for a Salsa dance partner to practice with, 18 to 40, willing to learn with me. ☎ 2402

NICE GUY SEEKING LADY

I'm 63 and retired, financially secure, seeking lady 50-60 for companionship. In good physical condition, 5'10, 176 lbs. Love travel & outdoors. I would love to meet you. Write blind box "Seeking Lady". ☎

NO INTERNET TYPING

Happy, honest, fit, 56, NS, ND, ISO F, 40-60. Spontaneous, independent, open-minded, honest heart. Lets explore our smiles, dreams, pleasures, travel & snorkle spaceship earth with a see and do it all spirit. ☎ 2453

LOOKING FOR FRIEND

SWM, 34, 5'10, athletic & easy going, looking for friend to hang out with, attend shows/social events. I enjoy bike rides, leisure dining, live music and sharing. Would like to meet anyone willing to share and have fun ☎ 2437

VEGAN ON THE COAST

Seeking partner for hiking/exploring the Oregon coast and the great northwest. 57, 160, witty, fun, humorous, adventurous, Scrabble, movies, photography. You? Friends first, possible LTR. ☎ 2436

MISFIT SEEKS SAME

I have looks, brains, a house, and I don't fit in anywhere. Perhaps you feel the same way? Maybe we fit together? 40ish, healthy, non-smoker, creative type, etc.etc...Ask and I will tell. ☎ 2434

ISO LTR

SWM, NS, seeks compassionate woman 30-50 to share life in an open heart space. Well educated, progressive, over traveled, kids a plus. Looking to create a LTR in a safe emotionally growing space. ☎ 2420

DEEPER EXPLORATIONS

Beyond the hiking, beach, Bijou, wine and dancing all EW women seem to, are there still HWP women 30-50 (mothers especially welcome) who want deeper conscious connection on all levels? ☎ 2419

FUN GRANDPA

SWM, 54, lives at the beach, likes the mountains too, loves to fish & crab, cook & garden, enjoys a glass of wine. Seeking single woman with similar interests. ☎ 2414

ISO A WIFE

Looking for a wife that can have a child. I believe that I can care for a wife very well. I have a state of mind that is called legitimacy. ☎ 2413

SHOW ME THE ROPES

Hot SM 40 ISO hot horse-loving women 25-45 who can show me the ropes on a part time bases. I am very interested in finding you. ☎ 2411

SEX & INTIMACY

SWM 44 ISO lovely woman who is 30-45 in shape, well-groomed and knows the difference between sex and intimacy and likes both. ☎ 2410

MARATHON MAN

Handsome, 5'8, 140 lbs, 45 yo, well endowed marathon man. ISO: cute, playful, sexually aggressive women 35-55, 150-190 lbs with lot of spare time. Safe, clean. Not seeking LTR. ☎ 2404

YUMM! EDAMAME

You had the Edamame bowl. I'd just finished my Chilean Zucchini. Your friend took the seat I wanted, and the guts to ask: "When can we meet for lunch?" ☎ 2488

REI LOT

12/14 between 1:00-2:00, you walked smiling at me. We said hi. I was on the phone. Do I know you? I most certainly want to... tea? ☎ 2487

MY BIRTHDAY

You were the hot blonde with the cool glasses. I was the drunk guy flying off beds. Had a great time and thanks for the tasty Turtle food. ☎ 2485

BOBBY & JUNE

I lost your number in the Christmas rush. Please call again. I'll cook dinner, Mexican or Italian? 541-334-9073.

SARAH FROM IDAHO

Sarah, I really enjoyed hanging with you after the Floater show and now I just can't seem to drink you off my mind! PLEASE get in touch with me! Patrick ☎ 2462

THOSE PHOTOS!

I saw you, a Eugenian with good taste, photographing the new covered Sundance mural. I need your photos! The Artist. ☎ 2461

GABE

I saw you at the new coffee shop. You remembered me...our talk was short-I would like it be longer. Coffee? Erin ☎ 2459

JESSE @ GOOD TIMES

Friday December 7th. I was sitting on the deck, you were playing pool. You said my shoes looked made for dancing. You left before I could give you my number. Get hold of me. Jen ☎ 2458

CAFE ROMA

friday afternoon you were inside studying, cute girl, blonde hair with hat, I walked by with a friend, brief eye contact, I was too busy to say hi, single? coffee? More talk? Go ahead, call. ☎ 2447

VOL. IN MEDICINE

12/3 You: volunteer dark hair, yellow blouse, red stethoscope. Me: green shirt, OSU hat, blood draw. Talked about blood & movies. Single? Movie? Coffee? More talk? Go ahead, call. ☎ 2447

15 ACCIDENT NOV 25

I helped Joan after her Nissan was scalped under jackknifed semi truck in the fog 5am Sun Nov 25. Cant stop thinking about her-she was taken to Sacred Heart with fractured skull. Does anyone know her or anything? ☎ 2446

LOST MY RAIN GEAR!

Did you find my basic (grimy) yellow rain jacket and black pants on 13th Street 12/05? Want to give them back? Contact me. Small reward. ☎ 2445

LOST MY HAT

Monday around 1:00 at either Roma or Sakura. Green wool/felt, parallel stitching on the bill, by Hat People. Sentimental value. Happily pay the cost of ad response. ☎ 2444

DRS. CHAMPER/KARTH

Back to back appts. on Monday, mid afternoon. We smiled, said hello couple of times. You good looking in your turtleneck and gray cords. Was that you on 2W Oak St. garage two days later? Could only see black silhouette against light sky background. Coffee? ☎ 2415

free WILL ASTROLOGY

BY ROB BREZSNY

ARIES (March 21-April 19): "Ambition is a bad excuse for not having enough good sense to be lazy," my ex-girlfriend Arlene used to say. She claimed to be a Zen master whose duty it was to deprogram me out of my absurd striving to make something of myself. She believed the key to enlightenment was to do nothing as much as possible. "You're egotistically attached to your identity as a poet," she'd yell into my room as I toiled over my writing. "Come out here and show me you have the spiritual guts to sit in front of the TV and lose your grandiose self in a meaningless game show." While I did eventually emerge from our relationship with an appreciation for the value of emptiness, it was not ultimately my destiny to downplay ambition. On the contrary! Which is why I'm here to exhort you, Aries, to treat your desires as sacred rocket fuel – in 2008, more than ever. In the coming months, in accordance with your astrological omens, I will intensify my efforts to supercharge your ambition.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): "Education is a method whereby one acquires a higher grade of prejudices," said author Laurence J. Peter. One of your top assignments in 2008 will be to prove him wrong. I hope that you will aggressively pursue a more authentic form of higher learning in numerous ways, from exploring the frontiers of your world to reading more good books to seeking out the company of original thinkers. I trust that as you expose yourself to novel data and expansive perspectives, you will get your mind blown over and over again.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): How do you numb your pain, Gemini? In 2008, I suggest that you do that less than you ever have before. Instead, launch a fierce, relentless campaign to heal the pain so that you no longer have to numb it. The astrological omens say that if you establish that as your intention, you will attract into your life the helpers and inspiration you need to make it happen. More than that: You'll be likely to generate the kind of good fortune that will render at least some of the pain obsolete.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You worked your ass off in 2007. Am I right, my fellow Cancerian? In fact, you threw yourself into your hard labors with so much dutiful fervor that you sometimes lost sight of the fact that they were mostly just preparation for bigger and better assignments. Luckily for you, I'm here to snap you out of your amnesia. Please begin immediately to formulate a vision of how you will make the transition to those bigger and better assignments.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Some weeds are good for flowers and vegetables, protecting them from predatory insects. So say horticulturalists Stan Finch and Rosemary Collier, writing in *Biologist* magazine. When the bugs come looking for their special treats – the plants we love – they often get waylaid by the weeds, landing on them first and getting fooled into thinking

there's nothing more valuable nearby. So for example, when cabbages are planted in the midst of clover, flies lay eggs on only 7 percent of them, compared to a 36-percent infestation rate on cabbages that are grown in bare soil with no clover nearby. I recommend that you use this as a key metaphor in 2008, Leo. Make sure there are always a few chickweed or henbit weeds surrounding your ripening tomatoes.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): "Life is a punishment," wrote poet Robert Frost. "All we can contribute to it is gracefulness in taking the punishment." That's the opposite of my philosophy. I say life is a miraculous gift, and the best way to express our gratitude is to be fountains of generosity. Where do you stand on the issue, Virgo? Even if you've had a view like Frost's up to this point in your journey, I think you'll have good reasons to convert to my perspective in 2008. You will, of course, have to be open to that possibility in order for it to happen. If you're addicted to believing that life is punishment, you'll miss a flood of clues contradicting that quaint notion.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): The coming months will be a favorable time to work hard on improving your number one relationship: you know, the one between you and yourself. So I hope you'll have a lot of long, deep, sympathetic conversations with yourself in 2008, even as you cut way back on the scattered, careless, unloving conversations. To get your pep talks off to a hot start, go to a mirror that makes you look your very best and unleash a hail of wild praise and outrageous compliments toward the gorgeous genius gazing back at you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): I meditated on the perfect holiday gift for you. What might inspire you to be in closest alignment with the cosmic currents in 2008? I decided that if I could, I'd buy you a costume shop. That way you could try on a thousand different masks and disguises. And that would put you in the proper frame of mind for the assignment I hope you will carry out all year long, which is to play with your identity and experiment with new self-images and maybe even treat your life as an epic theatrical extravaganza.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Due to the gravitational pull of the Moon, the Earth's rotation is gradually slowing down. A billion years ago, a day lasted only 18 hours. In about 14 million years, it will be 48 hours long. Imagine how much more you'll be able to accomplish in your future incarnations with all that extra time. By then, I'm sure someone will have also invented a pill that reduces the amount of sleep you need, further boosting your capacity to get things done. In 2008, I predict you will be blessed with a foreshadowing of that glorious period 14 million years from now. You will work smarter and do things more efficiently and engage in less wasted motion and maintain a crisper to-do list. Because of that, time will seem to expand for you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): French author and statesman André Malraux observed that Jesus Christ was the only anarchist who ever really succeeded. It's no coincidence that Christ was a Capricorn, I might add, since the evolved members of your tribe have many of the qualities necessary to thrive in situations where there are no formal rules or laws. If you would like to move more in the direction of being the highly evolved Capricorn you were born to be – and I think 2008 will be a very favorable time to do just that – you should cultivate the qualities of a successful anarchist. In other words, be self-motivated, disciplined, and respectful of the needs of other people. Do the right thing without having to be coerced to do the right thing. Foster in yourself a reverence for freedom and a knack for making constructive use of your freedom.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Last July 11, lightning zapped the steeple of the Newman United Methodist Church in Grants Pass, Ore. Later that same evening, another bolt from the heavens struck the exact same spot. Was this bad luck? A punishing message from an angry God? No. The rare double shot knocked the siding off the steeple, revealing a problem that no one at the church had suspected: The inner structure was rife with dry rot that would have collapsed soon. In exposing the hidden danger, the lightning did everyone a big favor. I predict that you will benefit from a metaphorically comparable sequence in early 2008, Aquarius.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): If you wanted to, you could be a skilled rainmaker in 2008, and make big bucks catalyzing downpours in drought-stricken areas. Your magical potentials are such that you might even be able to divert the flows of rivers, purify the pollution out of suffering lakes, and staunch the tears of people who've cried way too much. In other words, Pisces, you will have great power over the element of water. You could even use your wizardry to achieve a masterful equanimity toward your own oceanic emotions.

HOMEWORK: What's the one feeling you want to feel more than any other in 2008? RealAstrology.com; click on "Email Rob."

Go to RealAstrology.com

to check out Rob Brezny's

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ew personals

Abbreviations: A Asian • B Black • Bi Bisexual • C Couple • Ch Christian • D Divorced • F Female • G Gay • H Hispanic
 HWP Height/ Weight proportionate • J Jewish • M Male • NA No alcohol • Nam Native American • ND No drugs • NS No smoking
 P Professional • S Single • W White • Wi Widowed • ISO In search of • LTR Long-term relationship

Participants in *Eugene Weekly Personals* must be 18 years or older. To ensure your safety, carefully screen all responses. First meetings should occur in a public place and participants should not divulge addresses. *Eugene Weekly* does not screen or investigate individuals who place or respond to personals ads and makes no representation as to the character of these individuals. *Eugene Weekly* will not be responsible for the consequences of any interaction. Not all voice boxes contain voice greetings.



DEAR SISSY MONDAY

Generous and thoughtful, talented beyond measure. You are my role model; I admire you and appreciate you more than ever. I'm so pleased I have such a chic classy sister to call my boss.

COME AS YOU ARE

Weirdling because I believe in miracles you sexy thang! Beginning your 25th dance around the sun with a beautiful new smile! My gosh I fall in love with you again and again! Thank you Mother Goddess for bringing this Beautiful Angel into my life! Co-responsible forever. I love you, su Genio

TBBW

I've walked as slow as I could and rested a couple of times in the bushes so I could see those big ears and eyes that you have. LRRH



PLAYMATE WANTED

Seeking lady friend for hubby, he's tall handsome, kind and lots of fun...please no questions. ☎ 2449

SICK OF PORTLAND

Liberal bicycling punk rocker seeks contacts and info about living in Eugene. I am very interested in moving there by summer 2009! Clue me in please... ☎ 2443

BEST FRIEND?
Funny girl who loves wine and cheese, is seeking new best friend, for dancing, movies, and fun! Must have open mind! ☎ 2435

PRINCESS
Got your note call me. Love Skypilot. ☎ 2417



I'VE BEEN NAUGHTY
SWM, 45, clean, needs to be spanked like a girl, then bonked by dominating female. Willing to orally satisfy you. Not gay or bi (no males or flaky people) just curious to know what it's like to be on my back. 988-0324

SENSUAL EXCHANGE
SWM seeks sexy female for massage, hot tubs, oral fun. I'm 6', 165 lbs, very hung, very sensual, exchange fantasy or roll playing. Race unimportant 40-56 yrs. ☎ 2484

STOCKING STUFFER
Single, straight, sane, shyish, sincere and exceedingly busy. HWP, WM, 53. Blond/blue ISO HWP female for occasional safe, sensual encounters. ☎ 2460

BI-MALE SEEKS FUN
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Savage Love

WORDS OF PURE WISDOM by Dan Savage



I'm a 21-year-old female and I know the my-boyfriend-has-a-diaper-fetish thing has been done to death. But...

We've been together for two years. When he mustered up the courage to tell me about his fetish, I was supportive even though it did seem odd. To be completely honest, he's so good looking and such a wonderful guy that I was worried about losing him if I seemed less than ecstatic.

Flash forward a year and a half. We're very close, we're in a really good place, and we want to get married. However, his fetish has started to bother me. In the beginning he wanted me to talk down to him, he'd come in his diaper, and we were done. We'd do that roughly once a week. Now it's all he ever wants to do and "normal" sex is off the menu. And his fetish has progressed to these elaborate role-play scenarios complete with "sissy outfits." Sometimes it takes a whole day of role-playing to satisfy him and he makes me feel guilty if I refuse.

I know he's attracted to me—my attractiveness is a significant part of the role-playing—but I feel like he's being selfish. I also don't want him to do what I want just for the sake of doing what I want. I'm getting sick of this inner dialogue. What do you think? And please don't pass me up because you've answered infantilism questions in the past.

Sick Of Diapered Sissy

You're right, SODS—we have done the boyfriend-has-a-diaper-fetish thing to death. In fact, I responded to a woman who signed herself Beyond Annoyed in February; she was married to a diape-loving adult baby who was neglecting her desire for vanilla sex. Now normally I wouldn't run a letter from a reader with an identical problem, SODS, but I'm going to make an exception in your case. No need to thank me.

Thank O. J. Wandrisco.

Wandrisco is the director of a Christian youth group in Mt. Lebanon, Pennsylvania, and to "break the ice" at a recent meeting, Mr. Wandrisco sent three teenage boys—14-year-old boys—into a restroom with an older teenager. The boys were given "adult diapers, bibs, and bonnets and directed to take their clothes off and put the diapers, bibs, and bonnets on," the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* reported. "The boys returned to the group, where they were asked to sit in the laps of three girls. The girls spoon-fed baby food to the boys and then gave them baby bottles filled with soda pop. The first boy to finish was the winner."

Putting horny 14-year-old boys in diapers and plopping them on the laps of teenage girls for a little spoon- and bottle-feeding—thus are lifelong fetishes born. Not that I have anything against fetishes, lifelong or temporary, or the kind of formative life experiences that create 'em. I live in the house that fetishes bought, after all. But can you imagine the uproar from Christian groups if a gay youth group employed similar ice-breaking techniques?

A spokesman for the Christian youth group told the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* that they've been doing this "skit" for years; they also do a "skit" where girls eat chocolate pudding out of adult diapers. The spokesman also insisted that the boys from Mt. Lebanon "had fun" in those diapers. I'll bet they did—and odds are good that they're going to be having fun in diapers for the rest of their lives.

Okay, SODS, here's the advice I offered Beyond Annoyed: "Cut the brat off—no more baby games until he can successfully wrap his bonnet around this: Your pleasure matters as much as his does. He may not be interested in regular sex, but he needs to learn to fake it convincingly. And finally, BA, tell him that his continued failure to meet your vanilla needs is gonna get his diapered ass [dumped], leaving him single and shit out of luck, sex-partner-wise, for the rest of his adult infancy."

I frequently caution vanilla types not to leave folks on account of their kinks. "Dump the honest foot fetishist," goes the Karmic Rule of Kink (KROK), "and you will marry the dishonest necrophiliac." So good on you, SODS, for the way you handled your boyfriend's revelation. But KROK applies to kinksters, too: A lucky kinkster with an indulgent vanilla partner who fails to joyfully accommodate his partner's desire for "normal" sex is gonna get his ass dumped and then he's NEVER gonna get his kinky rocks off again without having to pay a pro \$500 an hour to put up with his bullshit.

Of course, your boyfriend may not believe that he's neglecting your needs. Concerned about seeming "less than ecstatic" when he broke the news, since he's so good looking you were afraid of losing him, your feigned enthusiasm may have led him to believe that you find his kink just as exciting as he does. If that's the case, you're going to have to take it back without making him feel violated. So when you cut him off, SODS, tell him that neither of you will be enjoying his kinks until vanilla sex is back on the menu.

I am a 26-year-old gay man living in Boston. I recently started dating a man in his 30s whose biggest turn-on is having a guy lick and kiss the bottoms of his feet. At first I enjoyed watching him get so much satisfaction while I licked and kissed his feet. But now I'm feeling uneasy. He has started asking me to get naked and worship his feet while he remains clothed and engages in nonsexual activities—things like watching TV, eating dinner, or just sitting back and having a smoke. I'm concerned that he's degrading me. I do have to say he more than gets me off after I do this for him. But I don't want to be in a relationship based on my being degraded—as good as it may feel to both of us. Do I put up with feeling degraded and stick around for the great sex? Do I tell him how I'm feeling?

New Foot Licker

His biggest turn-on is having his feet "worshipped," he wants you to worship said feet while he ignores you, and he remains fully clothed while you slobber away bare-ass naked—uh, NFL? This scenario is all about degradation, about you debasing yourself to affirm his sexual dominance. So long as he's only interested in degrading you when you're having sex, NFL, and not interested in degrading or dominating you 24/7, then you're not in a relationship "based on [your] being degraded," but in a relationship with someone turned on by role-playing degradation scenarios.

Does his desire to have you worship his feet while he engages in nonsexual activities—TV, meals, smokes—represent outside-of-sex slippage? Not so long as hot sex follows your degradation, NFL. You see, your slobbering and your nudity transform whatever "nonsexual activities" he's engaging in—or pretending to engage in—into highly charged sexual activities. When you're not naked on the floor licking the bottoms of his feet, NFL, then watching TV is just watching TV. But when you are on the floor licking the bottoms of his feet, watching TV is foreplay.

Finally, NFL, of course you should tell him how you're feeling. You should also ask him where, if anywhere, this is going. Is this scenario—you completely nude, worshipping his feet while he, fully clothed, ignores you—the end point? Is it his ultimate turn-on? Or is he grooming you for more degrading tasks? But first ask yourself this: "What if his answer is yes?"

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